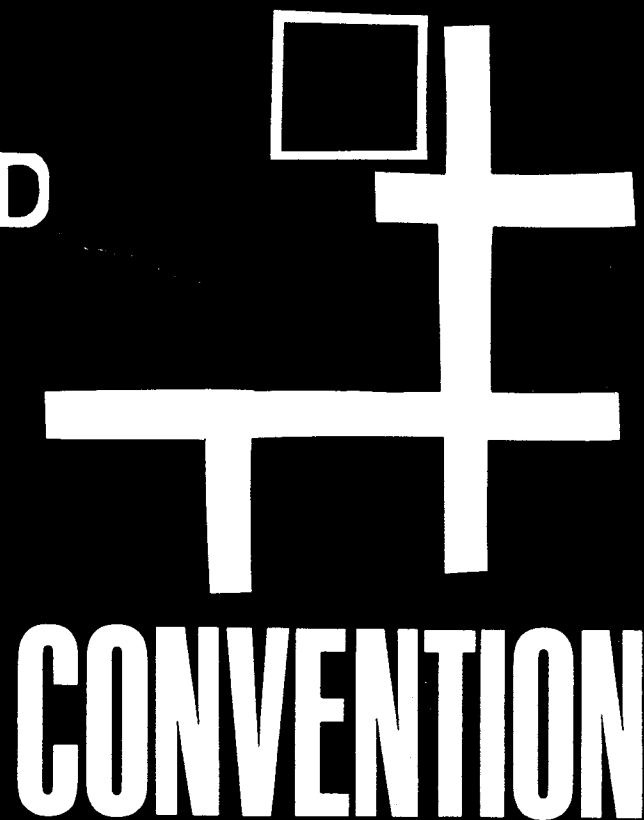


THE EDIFYING WORD



Proceedings

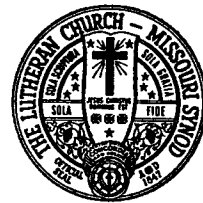
of the

Forty-Eighth Regular Convention

of

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

Denver, Colorado
July 11—18, 1969





Red Rocks

The audible Word . . .

The silent Word



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After Denver

Whatever evaluation historians of the future and pundits of the present may place on the Denver convention of the Missouri Synod, it will be necessary for them to have the facts.

This book contains the resolutions actually adopted and the official minutes of the proceedings. In other words, this is the record that needs to be evaluated.

* * *

In addition to the many matters mentioned in the minutes the following facts should also be noted for the sake of the record:

- The opening service was held in the Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, Colorado. Third Vice-President Paul W. Streufert, D.D., delivered the sermon on the basis of Hebrews 11:8-10. The Reverend Gerhard H. Mundinger, Ph.D., was the officiant and President Waldemar E. Meyer of the Colorado District the lector.
- All sessions were held at the new Currigan Exhibition Hall and committee meetings principally at the Denver Hilton.
- Floor committees began their work as early as July 7.
- The theme of the convention was "The Edifying Word."
- One of the "unofficial" highlights was the sacred concert presented at the Air Force Academy Chapel in Colorado Springs on July 13.

* * *

Since the innovation proved helpful after the New York convention, we have again noted in small type below the full text of some resolutions additional information from the notebooks of both secretaries. These additional comments give not only the exact nature of the amendments that were adopted but also the amend-

ments that were rejected, as well as other information that is helpful in arriving at a true understanding of not only the mood but also the mind of the convention on a given issue and at a given time.

We are introducing another innovation this year. In reporting the action taken on each resolution we are inserting a number in parentheses. This number refers to the session in which final action was taken. This information will enable the reader to refer to the minutes for the setting, additional details, etc.

Perhaps we need to add a word once again on abbreviations. *CW* is the symbol for *Convention Workbook*, the 554-page book of reports and overtures submitted to the convention. *URO* stands for *Unpublished Reports and Overtures*, a pamphlet distributed only to accredited delegates. *TB* refers to *Today's Business*, the daily mimeographed manual bringing the text of the proposed resolutions drafted by the floor committees.

Our thanks go to the many saints of God who contributed so much behind the scenes to the smooth functioning of the convention and especially to the production of the preconvention *Workbook* and the present volume. We should like to mention particularly Dr. Carl S. Meyer, who did yeoman service in producing the minutes from session to session.

* * *

The Denver convention is now history.

We hold a former President, Dr. Oliver R. Harms, in high esteem and warm affection. We bid a new President, Dr. J. A. O. Preus, Godspeed in the performance of his tasks and pledge him our prayers.

The strong God who made the hills and the mountains demonstrates ever and again the strength of His redeeming love also for the members of the Missouri Synod.

Let us learn to live together better as brothers in that love!

HERBERT MUELLER, *Secretary*

Officers of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

President

REV. JACOB A. O. PREUS, Ph. D., St. Louis, Mo.

First Vice-President

REV. R. P. WIEDERAENDERS, D. D., St. Louis, Mo.

Second Vice-President

REV. THEO. F. NICKEL, D. D., Chicago, Ill.

Third Vice-President

REV. VICTOR L. BEHNKEN, D. D., Anaheim, Calif.

Fourth Vice-President

REV. EDWIN C. WEBER, D. D., Fraser, Mich.

Fifth Vice-President

REV. PAUL W. STREUFERT, D. D., Rocky River, Ohio

Secretary

REV. HERBERT MUELLER, LL. D., Dundee, Ill.

Treasurer

MR. MILTON CARPENTER, LL. D., St. Louis, Mo.

1969 Convention Arrangements Committee

REV. WALDEMAR MEYER, *Chairman, Exec. Comm.*
REV. WILLIAM G. POLACK, *Vice-Chairman*
REV. GERHARD MUNDINGER, *Convention Coordinator*
REV. NORBERT E. HATTENDORF, *Secretary*
MR. WILLIAM D. CARTER, *Treasurer*
MR. D. E. CLINE, *Public Relations*
REV. JAMES GROERICH, *Registration-Credentials*
REV. PAUL HANSEN, *Worship*

MR. WALTER L. MEYER, *Equipment*
MR. GEORGE RAUSCHER, *Exhibits*
REV. DUANE REETZ, *Housing*
MR. CARL STREUFERT, *Convention Services*
MR. EMIL THAEMERT, *Halls*
MR. WALTER KOCH, *Member-at-Large*
REV. WILLIAM C. NAATZ, *Advisory*
MR. MELVIN F. SCHLAKE, *Convention Manager*

CONVENTION ROSTER

A. Congregational and District Representatives (Voting Pastors, Voting Laymen, Advisory Delegates)

Alberta and British Columbia District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Hein, Rev. Paul A., Red Deer, Alta.
2. Unterschultz, Rev. Don, Calgary, Alta.
3. Koehler, Rev. Walter, Spruce Grove, Alta.
4. Schmidt, Rev. F. G., Edmonton, Alta.
5. Clark, Rev. H. C., Trail, B. C.
6. Treit, Rev. Elroy, South Burnaby, B. C.
7. Fruson, Rev. H., Abbotsford, B. C.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Appelt, Mr. Theo, Lethbridge, Alta.
2. Tetting, Mr. Dave, Calgary, Alta.
3. Schramm, Mr. Jack, Stony Plain, Alta.
4. Schienbein, Mr. P., Edmonton, Alta.
5. Vaage, Mr. Isak, Williams Lake, B. C.
6. Epp, Mr. Al, Ladner, B. C.
7. Henzel, Mr. Herman, North Surrey, B. C.

C. Advisory Pastor

Stahlke, Rev. L., Fort McMurray, Alta.

Atlantic District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Duchow, Rev. Robert, Manchester, N. H.
2. Bauer, Rev. Frank J., Quincy, Mass.
3. Finger, Rev. Andrew R., Framingham, Mass.
4. Manns, Rev. Richard W., Dedham, Mass.
5. Koenig, Rev. Richard E., Amherst, Mass.
6. Fischer, Rev. Edward, Storrs, Conn.
7. Feldmann, Rev. Robert, Granby, Conn.
8. Schulze, Rev. Raymond C., New Haven, Conn.
9. Baumgartner, Rev. Willard, Plainville, Conn.
10. Wolter, Rev. Robert, New Milford, Conn.
11. Pudell, Rev. William W., Schenectady, N. Y.
12. Yingling, Rev. Stanton A., Jr., Delmar, N. Y.
13. Behling, Rev. Paul G., Walden, N. Y.
14. Kiesling, Rev. Richard, Mount Vernon, N. Y.
15. Johnson, Rev. Richard, Yonkers, N. Y.
16. Yang, Rev. Philip, New York, N. Y.
17. Prange, Rev. Erwin E., Brooklyn, N. Y.
18. Leininger, Rev. Jacob W., Flushing, N. Y.
19. Pflug, Rev. Ernst R., Bayside, N. Y.
20. Roth, Rev. Clarence L., Queens Village, N. Y.
21. Graser, Rev. Alfred P., Williston Park, N. Y.
22. Kern, Rev. Herbert M., East Meadow, N. Y.
23. Koepschen, Rev. Henry, Setauket, N. Y.
24. Kavasch, Rev. John A., Huntington Sta., N. Y.
25. Graesser, Rev. Donald, Closter, N. J.
26. Mueller, Rev. Arlo M., North Bergen, N. J.
27. Fibelkorn, Rev. John, Newark, N. J.
28. Schmidt, Rev. Martin, Wayne, N. J.
29. Stumpf, Rev. Kenneth, Springfield, N. J.
30. Schmidt, Rev. Raymond D., Mountain Lakes, N. J.
31. Meyer, Rev. Harley, Old Bridge, N. J.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Williams, Mr. Roger, Nashua, N. H.
2. Weinschenk, Dr. Ernest, Bedford, Mass.
3. Haffenreffer, Mr. John, Wellesley, Mass.
4. Schwaber, Mr. John, Westfield, Mass.
5. Magruder, Mr. Stewart, East Hartford, Conn.
6. Steidel, Mr. Carl, Jr., West Hartford, Conn.
7. Bender, Mr. Donald, North Haven, Conn.
8. Roth, Mr. Hilton, Cheshire, Conn.
9. Hawkins, Mr. Robt., Trumbull, Conn.
10. Kelch, Mr. Edward J., Scotia, N. Y.
11. Henkens, Mr. Jacob, Selkirk, N. Y.
12. Scharf, Mr. Leonard, Warwick, N. Y.
13. Ficke, Mr. Charles, Bronx, N. Y.
14. Madigan, Mr. Robert, Darien, Conn.
15. Lopez, Mr. Jose, New York, N. Y.
16. Reilly, Mr. Joseph, Brooklyn, N. Y.
17. Wiedemann, Mr. Wilmer, Flushing, N. Y.
18. Krubsack, Mr. Marcus, Flushing, N. Y.
19. Bayha, Mr. Ernest, St. Albans, N. Y.
20. Maurer, Mr. Carl L., Sea Cliff, N. Y.

22. Shaw, Mr. Robert, Seaford, N. Y.
23. Ebinger, Mr. Marvin, Sayville, N. Y.
24. Martin, Mr. Humbert O., Amityville, N. Y.
25. Ottman, Mr. F. R., Glen Rock, N. J.
26. —
27. Weidenschilling, Mr. Paul, Lincoln Park, N. J.
28. Gandy, Mr. Erwin, Ringwood, N. J.
29. Baeder, Mr. Donald, Westfield, N. J.
30. Sorenson, Mr. Emil, Sparta, N. J.
31. Schulz, Mr. Robert, Rumson, N. J.

C. Advisory Pastors

Buchheimer, Rev. Louis T., Wantagh, N. Y.
Ernst, Rev. Robert G., Hicksville, N. Y.
Kuebler, Rev. Karl E., Plainview, N. Y.
Metcalf, Rev. Max P., Bayside, N. Y.
Ruff, Rev. Jack H., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Tompkins, Rev. Donald, Bronx, N. Y.
Voges, Rev. Carl A., Englishtown, N. J.

D. Advisory Teachers

Beckmann, Mr. Robert T., Cranston, R. I.
Eggers, Mr. Paul, Jackson Heights, N. Y.
Kaesmeyer, Mr. Victor R., Woodside, N. Y.
Lisch, Mr. Elmer R., Whitestone, N. Y.
Rath, Mr. Richard L., Malverne, N. Y.
Toven, Mr. David O., Eastchester, N. Y.
Zuelsdorf, Mr. Anthony E., Albany, N. Y.

California and Nevada District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Heuer, Rev. Herman H., San Francisco, Calif.
2. Ostruske, Rev. Neal J., Hayward, Calif.
3. Werfelmann, Rev. Ernst F., Stockton, Calif.
4. Brewer, Rev. Richard P., Pleasant Hill, Calif.
5. Brohm, Rev. Theodore L., Delano, Calif.
6. Marting, Rev. Louis C., Honolulu, Hawaii
7. Iverson, Rev. Theodore A., Fresno, Calif.
8. Uhlig, Rev. John P., Redwood City, Calif.
9. Mitchell, Rev. Harold R., Sunnyvale, Calif.
10. Diehl, Rev. William D., Ferndale, Calif.
11. Paul, Rev. Martin A., Orangevale, Calif.
12. Schwermann, Rev. Robert W., Chico, Calif.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Goebel, Dr. Philip, Novato, Calif.
2. Hoffman, Mr. Henry, Oakland, Calif.
3. Grubb, Mr. Clyde, Livingston, Calif.
4. Sommer, Mr. John, Sacramento, Calif.
5. Rabenhorst, Mr. Arthur, Las Vegas, Nev.
6. Duxtader, Mr. Elton, Albany, Calif.
7. Righetti, Mr. Fred, San Luis Obispo, Calif.
8. Schmidt, Mr. Noel, Palo Alto, Calif.
9. Thomas, Mr. Donald, San Jose, Calif.
10. Franzen, Mr. Herbert, Ukiah, Calif.
11. Hamilton, Mr. John Wesley, Susanville, Calif.
12. Poleske, Mr. Otto, Sacramento, Calif.

C. Advisory Pastors

Herzfeld, Rev. Willie L., Oakland, Calif.
Steinbeck, Rev. George L., Terra Bella, Calif.
Swanson, Rev. Donald E., Oakland, Calif.

D. Advisory Teachers

Delventhal, Mr. Wayne H., Wahiawa, Hawaii
Hillmann, Mr. Paul L., Terra Bella, Calif.
Marty, Mr. Robt., Fair Oaks, Calif.

Central Illinois District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Moehring, Rev. Erwin, Altamont, Ill.
2. Ricker, Rev. John S., Roanoke, Ill.
3. Meyer, Rev. John W., Mattoon, Ill.
4. Wackler, Rev. Myron E., Thomasboro, Ill.
5. Mueller, Rev. Alvin W., Decatur, Ill.

6. Schlie, Rev. George, Louisville, Ill.
7. Kroll, Rev. Donald, Bluffs, Ill.
8. Kirchner, Rev. Donald E., Chestnut, Ill.
9. Stuckwisch, Rev. Raymond, Peoria, Ill.
10. Otto, Rev. Ewald J., Quincy, Ill.
11. Stuebe, Rev. John, Taylor Ridge, Ill.
12. Otto, Rev. Edgar J. Jr., Springfield, Ill.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Yagow, Mr. Paul, St. Elmo, Ill.
2. Schwulst, Mr. Carl, Bloomington, Ill.
3. Rahn, Mr. Floyd, Tuscola, Ill.
4. Scheiwe, Mr. Clarence, Cissna Park, Ill.
5. Karloski, Mr. Walter W., Decatur, Ill.
6. Kindt, Dr. James, Robinson, Ill.
7. Jokisch, Mr. Reginald, Virginia, Ill.
8. Hilst, Mr. Henry Junior, Mason City, Ill.
9. Fratzke, Mr. Larry, East Peoria, Ill.
10. McCleery, Mr. Robert, Bushnell, Ill.
11. Jairett, Mr. Harry, East Moline, Ill.
12. Meierhans, Mr. Irwin, Springfield, Ill.

C. Advisory Pastor

Timm, Rev. Harry, Peoria, Ill.

D. Advisory Teachers

Goldenstern, Mr. Clarence, Danville, Ill.
Heidloff, Mr. David, Bloomington, Ill.
Krueger, Mr. George, Springfield, Ill.

Colorado District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Pomeroy, Rev. James, Holyoke, Colo.
2. Weinrich, Rev. G. A., Farmington, N. Mex.
3. Roehrs, Rev. Luther W., Denver, Colo.
4. Hattendorf, Rev. Norbert E., Boulder, Colo.
5. Bergmann, Rev. David, El Paso, Tex.
6. Schmidt, Rev. Daryl, Colorado Springs, Colo.
7. Biel, Rev. Robert, Denver, Colo.
8. Oldsen, Rev. Gerold, Glenwood Springs, Colo.
9. Schmidt, Rev. Paul, Murray, Utah

B. Voting Laymen

1. Plautz, Mr. Fred W., Burlington, Colo.
2. Bartelt, Mr. Norman, Albuquerque, N. Mex.
3. Koepke, Mr. Edwin, Denver, Colo.
4. Alspach, Mr. Wallace, Boulder, Colo.
5. Hahn, Mr. Oliver D., Las Cruces, N. Mex.
6. Muhlenbruck, Mr. Charles, Colorado Springs, Colo.
7. Schallenmuller, Mr. Albert, Littleton, Colo.
8. Spengler, Mr. Robert, Grand Junction, Colo.
9. Kettner, Mr. Norman W., Salt Lake City, Utah

C. Advisory Pastor

Schrank, Rev. Robert J., El Paso, Tex.

D. Advisory Teachers

Bunge, Mr. John, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Maas, Mr. Edward F., Brighton, Colo.

Eastern District

A. Voting Pastors

1. Panning, Rev. John, Tonawanda, N. Y.
2. Hahn, Rev. Clyde, Eden, N. Y.
3. Lottes, Rev. Wilbur, Medina, N. Y.
4. Bahr, Rev. Albert W., Niagara Falls, N. Y.
5. Dorn, Rev. Paul, Dunkirk, N. Y.
6. Saresky, Rev. Edward, Rochester, N. Y.
7. Dueker, Rev. Arthur C., Rochester, N. Y.
8. Degner, Rev. G. Waldemar, Ithaca, N. Y.
9. Koenig, Rev. Walter H., Pittsburgh, Pa.
10. Sommerfeld, Rev. Walter, Pittsburgh, Pa.
11. Struckmann, Rev. Otto, Easton, Pa.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Mueller, Mr. Arthur T., Depew, N. Y.
2. Owen, Mr. Richard E., Orchard Park, N. Y.
3. Buerger, Dr. Paul, Lockport, N. Y.
4. Tiegerman, Mr. Eric, Lewiston, N. Y.
5. Schrader, Mr. Walter C., Wellsville, N. Y.

CONVENTION ROSTER

6. Bauch, Mr. Luther, Canandaigua, N. Y.
7. Jacobs, Mr. Luther C., Spencerport, N. Y.
8. Neebe, Mr. Fred, Vestal, N. Y.
9. Montag, Mr. Edward, Cabot, Pa.
10. Rathe, Mr. Erich, Pittsburgh, Pa.
11. Goffney, Mr. Rudolph, Philadelphia, Pa.

C. Advisory Pastor

Beck, Rev. Max G., Pittsburgh, Pa.

D. Advisory Teachers

Helming, Mr. Warren, Tonawanda, N. Y.
Witt, Mr. Arthur, North Tonawanda, N. Y.

English District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Biegner, Rev. Robert A., Mount Vernon, N. Y.
2. McRee, Rev. Oswald, Yardley, Pa.
3. Rose, Rev. Robert H., North Tonawanda, N. Y.
4. Landeck, Rev. Robert L., Middleburg Hts., Ohio
5. Sangers, Rev. Carl J., Marysville, Mich.
6. Stuckmeyer, Rev. Richard C., Pontiac, Mich.
7. Wlans, Rev. Herbert T., Chicago, Ill.
8. Brandt, Rev. Arlan H., LaGrange Park, Ill.
9. Holm, Rev. Walter E., Chicago, Ill.
10. Pieplow, Rev. Edwin E., Hales Corners, Wis.
11. Mack, Rev. Alvin C., St. Louis, Mo.
12. Rittmann, Rev. Lynn, Tucson, Ariz.
13. Schuessler, Rev. Paul E., St. Paul, Minn.
14. Huxhold, Rev. Harry N., Indianapolis, Ind.
15. Nickelsburg, Rev. G. W. E. Sr., Swissvale, Pa.
16. Kringel, Rev. Edwin H., Charlotte, Mich.
17. Moore, Rev. Gilbert C., Los Angeles, Calif.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Veit, Mr. Joseph, Palisades Park, N. J.
2. Soderblom, Mr. Robert, Levittown, Pa.
3. Cunningham, Mr. C. V., Erie, Pa.
4. Benko, Mr. Rudolph M., North Canton, Ohio
5. Bohn, Mr. Wallace H., Grosse Pointe, Mich.
6. Kennedy, Mr. Bernard, Detroit, Mich.
7. Vetter, Mr. Paul, Palos Heights, Ill.
8. Miller, Mr. William J., Elwood, Ill.
9. Krickow, Mr. Arthur, Des Plaines, Ill.
10. Groth, Mr. Harold, Milwaukee, Wis.
11. Beckmann, Dr. Milton W., Lincoln, Nebr.
12. Oebker, Dr. Norman, Tucson, Ariz.
13. Morris, Mr. James, Lake Elmo, Minn.
14. Folkerts, Dr. Tom, Indianapolis, Ind.
15. Roth, Mr. Wm. B., Pittsburgh, Pa.
16. Wyble, Mr. F. Merrill, Lansing, Mich.
17. Schedler, Mr. Paul, La Mesa, Calif.

C. Advisory Pastors

Damm, Rev. John S., Creve Coeur, Mo.
Feucht, Rev. Richard H., Detroit, Mich.
Hecht, Rev. Harold, Detroit, Mich.
Tietjen, Rev. John H., Leonia, N. J.
Witt, Rev. Elmer N., Matteson, Ill.
Woldt, Rev. William E., Detroit, Mich.

D. Advisory Teachers

Bruesehoff, Mr. Albert W., Sheboygan, Wis.
Hamann, Mr. Frederick W., Tucson, Ariz.
Mueller, Mr. Albert F., Morriston, Pa.
Wenz, Mr. Richard L., Hannibal, Mo.

Florida-Georgia District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Frenk, Rev. Erdmann A., Roswell, Ga.
2. Mader, Rev. Myron G., Ocala, Fla.
3. Kutz, Rev. John F., Orlando, Fla.
4. Behnken, Rev. L. Lloyd, Hollywood, Fla.
5. Schlessmann, Rev. P. C., Hialeah, Fla.
6. Strickert, Rev. Robert H., Bradenton, Fla.
7. Steffen, Rev. Lee W., Lakeland, Fla.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Hart, Mr. Charles Jr., Atlanta, Ga.
2. Graham, Mr. Edgar Jr., Jacksonville, Fla.
3. Graf, Mr. Joseph E., Winter Park, Fla.
4. Miller, Mr. Albert Jr., Delray Beach, Fla.
5. Oxar, Dr. Charles, N. Miami, Fla.
6. Meyers, Mr. Paul, Clearwater, Fla.
7. Beccue, Mr. Paul, Tampa, Fla.

C. Advisory Pastor

Seaman, Rev. Gerald, Orlando, Fla.

D. Advisory Teacher

Trinklein, Mr. Roland, Marietta, Ga.

Indiana District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Lassanske, Rev. R., Highland, Ind.
2. Meilaender, Rev. Gilbert C., Hobart, Ind.
3. Schulenberg, Rev. Louis, Chesterton, Ind.
4. Meyer, Rev. Edward A., La Porte, Ind.
5. Mueller, Rev. Raymond, Bremen, Ind.
6. Berg, Rev. Henry, Goshen, Ind.
7. Gahl, Rev. Richard, Leo, Ind.
8. Fritz, Rev. R. H., Fort Wayne, Ind.
9. Busch, Rev. Ellsworth, Fort Wayne, Ind.
10. Eden, Rev. Roger, Decatur, Ind.
11. Lang, Rev. Marcus, Lafayette, Ind.
12. Biester, Rev. Donald W., Tipton, Ind.
13. Harnack, Rev. Russel, Indianapolis, Ind.
14. Hellert, Rev. A., Indianapolis, Ind.
15. Schmidt, Rev. Harold, Vincennes, Ind.
16. Bell, Rev. Daniel, Martinsville, Ind.
17. Mueller, Rev. A. A., Seymour, Ind.
18. Geerdes, Rev. Bernard, Richmond, Ind.
19. Buehner, Rev. Theo., New Albany, Ind.
20. Polley, Rev. L. W., Tell City, Ind.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Harder, Mr. William, Whiting, Ind.
2. Menser, Mr. Barry, Gary, Ind.
3. Gunther, Dr. W. C., Valparaiso, Ind.
4. Peterson, Mr. Bertil, Grovertown, Ind.
5. Hansing, Mr. Ronald, Elkhart, Ind.
6. Koenig, Mr. Ed, Auburn, Ind.
7. —
8. Frey, Mr. Henry, Fort Wayne, Ind.
9. Hunter, Mr. Robert R., New Haven, Ind.
10. Krueckeberg, Mr. Henry, Decatur, Ind.
11. Ruemler, Mr. George, Monticello, Ind.
12. McClure, Mr. Donald, Marion, Ind.
13. Kastrup, Mr. William, Indianapolis, Ind.
14. Tagge, Mr. John, Indianapolis, Ind.
15. Kahre, Mr. Gilbert, Evansville, Ind.
16. Fenner, Mr. Walther, Columbus, Ind.
17. Zabel, Mr. Glen, Brownstown, Ind.
18. Zernach, Mr. Irvine, Aurora, Ind.
19. Beck, Mr. Ed G., Louisville, Ky.
20. Riechmann, Mr. Frederick, Evansville, Ind.

C. Advisory Pastors

Fenner, Rev. A. A., Fort Wayne, Ind.
Huegli, Rev. Albert G., Valparaiso, Ind.
Widmann, Rev. Richard, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Zagel, Rev. Herman M., Indianapolis, Ind.

D. Advisory Teachers

Baack, Mr. Lester, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Blazek, Mr. Larry, Indianapolis, Ind.
Guenther, Mr. Vernon, New Haven, Ind.
Gutzler, Mr. Melvin, Hobart, Ind.
Hoffmann, Mr. William, Hammond, Ind.
Homeier, Mr. Edwin, Louisville, Ky.
Lange, Dr. Paul W., Valparaiso, Ind.
Leimer, Mr. Henry, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Manske, Mr. Alfred, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Masenthin, Mr. Elmer, Fort Wayne, Ind.
Niemeier, Mr. Arthur, Seymour, Ind.
Werling, Mr. Arthur, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Iowa East District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Betke, Rev. N. E., St. Ansgar, Iowa
2. Widmann, Rev. Elmer, Hampton, Iowa
3. Kramer, Rev. Eugene, Waterloo, Iowa
4. Stalder, Rev. James, Westgate, Iowa
5. Anderson, Rev. David, Dubuque, Iowa
6. Meseke, Rev. G. H., Hiawatha, Iowa
7. Miller, Rev. Paul, Bennett, Iowa
8. Aurich, Rev. Leonard, Williamsburg, Iowa
9. Koepke, Rev. Frank, Burlington, Iowa

B. Voting Laymen

1. Heiden, Mr. E. A., Osage, Iowa
2. Troester, Mr. Griff, Latimer, Iowa
3. Ormord, Mr. Roger, Waterloo, Iowa
4. Albrecht, Mr. Herbert, Fairbank, Iowa
5. Geitz, Mr. Phillip, Manchester, Iowa
6. Lanes, Mr. George, Marion, Iowa
7. Schumacher, Mr. Leonard, Davenport, Iowa
8. Hagen, Mr. Oren, Amara, Iowa
9. Prill, Mr. Orville, Fairfield, Iowa

C. Advisory Pastor**D. Advisory Teacher**

Dieckhoff, Mr. Bill D., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Iowa West District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Cunningham, Rev. J. Robert, Sanborn, Iowa
2. MacLachlan, Rev. Neal, Emmetsburg, Iowa
3. Hentscher, Rev. Daniel F., Garner, Iowa
4. Vehling, Rev. Arnold E., Sioux City, Iowa
5. Friedrich, Rev. Henry W., Marcus, Iowa
6. Kempfert, Rev. Frederick, Galva, Iowa
7. Jilg, Rev. Paul H., Des Moines, Iowa
8. Oswald, Rev. Arthur, Webster City, Iowa
9. Leenerts, Rev. Roger, Battle Creek, Iowa
10. Schmidt, Rev. Carl W., Denison, Iowa
11. Heinicke, Rev. Edward F., Manning, Iowa
12. Haerther, Rev. Martin J., Ogden, Iowa
13. Flentgen, Rev. R. B., Oakland, Iowa
14. Faga, Rev. Paul A., Creston, Iowa
15. Bartels, Rev. H. K., Shenandoah, Iowa

B. Voting Laymen

1. Weidler, Mr. William, Ocheyedan, Iowa
2. Schmid, Mr. Oscar, Spencer, Iowa
3. Willrett, Mr. Carroll, Algona, Iowa
4. Yockey, Dr. William, Sioux City, Iowa
5. Straub, Mr. Kenneth, Paullina, Iowa
6. Hintz, Mr. Arthur J., Storm Lake, Iowa
7. Clausen, Mr. Dale, Stuart, Iowa
8. Borchardt, Mr. Armin, Clarion, Iowa
9. Albertson, Mr. Marvin, Danbury, Iowa
10. Gierman, Mr. Milton, Kiron, Iowa
11. Mobley, Mr. Orval S., Carroll, Iowa
12. Van Gelder, Dr. Gary, Nevada, Iowa
13. Dow, Mr. Francis L., Logan, Iowa
14. Kading, Mr. Norman, Casey, Iowa
15. Rohrberg, Mr. Kenton, Glenwood, Iowa

C. Advisory Pastor

Rodehorst, Rev. E. C., Fort Dodge, Iowa

D. Advisory Teacher

Hirsch, Mr. Ivan, Boone, Iowa

Kansas District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Hemmann, Rev. Louis, Fairview, Kans.
2. Schmidt, Rev. Eugene, Kansas City, Kans.
3. Schudde, Rev. A., Paola, Kans.
4. Mayer, Rev. H. R., Topeka, Kans.
5. Nieman, Rev. C. C., Independence, Kans.
6. Westhoff, Rev. Chalmers, Bremen, Kans.
7. Trost, Rev. Edward, Wamego, Kans.
8. Wittmayer, Rev. Garland A., Tampa, Kans.
9. Dale, Rev. Leonard A., Wichita, Kans.
10. Hofius, Rev. John A., McPherson, Kans.
11. Boone, Rev. David, Downs, Kans.
12. Ziegler, Rev. Robert, Clafin, Kans.
13. Krause, Rev. Alfred, Ludell, Kans.
14. Juergensen, Rev. Eugene, Liberal, Kans.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Estes, Mr. Roy, Atchison, Kans.
2. Rosche, Mr. Ed., Kansas City, Kans.
3. Trantham, Mr. John, Shawnee Mission, Kans.
4. Wipperman, Mr. Al, Topeka, Kans.
5. Lassman, Mr. Robert, Chanute, Kans.
6. Koehneke, Mr. Edward, Herkimer, Kans.
7. Lietz, Mr. Howard, Alma, Kans.
8. Hanschu, Mr. Arthur, Salina, Kans.
9. Pfortmiller, Mr. Paul, Wichita, Kans.
10. Schmidt, Mr. Ray, Pratt, Kans.
11. Dohl, Mr. Herman, Sylvan Grove, Kans.
12. Schepmann, Mr. Elroy, Holyrood, Kans.
13. Unger, Mr. Carl, Oberlin, Kans.
14. Otteson, Mr. Harold, Scott City, Kans.

C. Advisory Pastor

Deffner, Rev. L. H., Wichita, Kans.

D. Advisory Teachers

Guenther, Mr. Walter, Linn, Kans.
Heibel, Mr. Daniel, Haven, Kans.
Raguse, Mr. Carl, Hutchinson, Kans.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Dettlesen, Rev. Deane, Luseland, Sask.
2. —
3. Borchardt, Rev. Alvin R., Macnutt, Sask.
4. Ramsey, Rev. David, Frohisher, Sask.
5. Schulz, Rev. David, Southey, Sask.

6. Bylund, Rev. Dennis, Spring Valley, Sask.
7. Koehler, Rev. Frederick F., Winnipeg, Man.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Appelt, Mr. David, Saskatoon, Sask.
2. Miller, Mr. William, Prince Albert, Sask.
3. Habersack, Mr. Elmer, Yorkton, Sask.
4. Mueller, Mr. Karl, Wolseley, Sask.
5. —
6. Seifert, Mr. Louis, Maple Creek, Sask.
7. Sigurdson, Mr. Baldur H., Winnipeg, Man.

Michigan District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Hilgendorf, Rev. Maynard D., Engadine, Mich.
2. Spomer, Rev. Arthur J., Ann Arbor, Mich.
3. Allan, Rev. Kenneth, Portage, Mich.
4. Goehner, Rev. James, Bay City, Mich.
5. Voegel, Rev. Herman C., Scottville, Mich.
6. Barz, Rev. Marvin L., St. Johns, Mich.
7. Strickert, Rev. A. H., Dearborn, Mich.
8. Grefrath, Rev. Nathan K., Detroit, Mich.
9. Bernthal, Rev. Harold C., Detroit, Mich.
10. Ulbrich, Rev. Armand, Detroit, Mich.
11. Pero, Rev. Albert, Detroit, Mich.
12. Boerger, Rev. John, Flint, Mich.
13. Chaveriat, Rev. Charles, Birch Run, Mich.
14. Schroeder, Rev. Roy, Sparta, Mich.
15. Ruhlig, Rev. E. M., Holland, Mich.
16. Rutkowski, Rev. Walter, Farmington, Mich.
17. Cordes, Rev. Darwin E., Utica, Mich.
18. Peterson, Rev. E. C., East Detroit, Mich.
19. Krauss, Rev. Edward, Mount Pleasant, Mich.
20. Richert, Rev. Daniel H., New Boston, Mich.
21. Moehring, Rev. Robert, Algonac, Mich.
22. Fry, Rev. Victor G., Muskegon, Mich.
23. Simon, Rev. Donald E., Milford, Mich.
24. Boerger, Rev. Robert, Southfield, Mich.
25. Kasten, Rev. Horst, Saginaw, Mich.
26. Brendel, Rev. Richard, Saginaw, Mich.
27. Brege, Rev. Robert E., St. Joseph, Mich.
28. Heidenreich, Rev. H. M., Sturgis, Mich.
29. Scheck, Rev. Elmer E., Sebewaing, Mich.
30. Beyer, Rev. Donald, Grayling, Mich.
31. Schudlich, Rev. Gerald, Traverse City, Mich.
32. Light, Rev. Gordon, Trenton, Mich.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Hopp, Mr. Harold, Rogers City, Mich.
2. Lake, Dr. Edward C., Jackson, Mich.
3. Blum, Mr. Earl, Three Rivers, Mich.
4. Putz, Mr. Theodore, Bay City, Mich.
5. Snider, Mr. James E., Reed City, Mich.
6. Brock, Mr. Stuart, Ionia, Mich.
7. Kuhn, Mr. Gerald, Westland, Mich.
8. Ruh, Mr. Charles, Detroit, Mich.
9. Barnier, Mr. George, Bloomfield, Mich.
10. Katterman, Mr. Victor, Southfield, Mich.
11. Belcher, Mr. Sterling, Detroit, Mich.
12. Broecker, Mr. Lloyd, Hadley, Mich.
13. Meyka, Mr. Charles H., Mount Morris, Mich.
14. Scheidt, Mr. Miles, Grand Rapids, Mich.
15. Heinecke, Mr. Alfred, Grand Rapids, Mich.
16. Rathert, Mr. Kenneth R., Northville, Mich.
17. Allen, Mr. Orlin, Romeo, Mich.
18. Wiese, Mr. M. Charles, Harper Woods, Mich.
19. Gerlach, Mr. Earl, Clare, Mich.
20. Miller, Mr. Frederick, Tecumseh, Mich.
21. Warsinski, Mr. Carl E., Port Huron, Mich.
22. Peterson, Mr. Fred, Whitehall, Mich.
23. Bittenmiller, Mr. Karl, Walled Lake, Mich.
24. Merrell, Mr. Andrew D., Royal Oak, Mich.
25. Hoerlein, Mr. Carl, Richville, Mich.
26. Mossner, Mr. Elmer H., Saginaw, Mich.
27. Cole, Mr. Gerald, St. Joseph, Mich.
28. Frohnappfel, Mr. George, Coldwater, Mich.
29. Gremel, Mr. Arnold, Sebewaing, Mich.
30. Earl, Mr. Harvey, St. Helen, Mich.
31. Clave, Mr. Butler, Bayview, Mich.
32. Brown, Mr. Laurence A. Sr., Southgate, Mich.

C. Advisory Pastors

Heinecke, Rev. Paul T., Ann Arbor, Mich.

Kapfer, Rev. Richard, Ypsilanti, Mich.
Klein, Rev. Adolph, Flint, Mich.
Wiese, Rev. F. W. Sr., Big Rapids, Mich.

D. Advisory Teachers

Bierwagen, Mr. Bernhard, Detroit, Mich.
Eckert, Mr. Glenn W., Dearborn, Mich.
Gelhausen, Mr. Albert F., Lapeer, Mich.
Hardt, Mr. Theodore, Mount Clemens, Mich.
Klammer, Mr. Edmund, Frankenmuth, Mich.
Moldenhauer, Mr. Herbert C., East Detroit, Mich.
Naber, Mr. Darrell, Conklin, Mich.
Opel, Mr. Edgar, Bay City, Mich.
Palmreuter, Mr. Ken, Lincoln Park, Mich.
Papenberg, Mr. Walt, Rochester, Mich.
Rittmueller, Mr. Walter, Roseville, Mich.
Roth, Dr. S. J., East Detroit, Mich.
Scheck, Mr. Donald, Sawyer, Mich.
Scheer, Mr. August G., Reed City, Mich.
Schempf, Mr. Richard H., Detroit, Mich.
Storm, Mr. Robt. C., Saginaw, Mich.

Mid-South District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Lossner, Rev. A., Hopkinsville, Ky.
2. Donner, Rev. P., Paducah, Ky.
3. Groteluschen, Rev. N., Memphis, Tenn.
4. Leeman, Rev. K., Benton, Ark.
5. Pennekamp, Rev. E., Rogers, Ark.
6. Johnson, Rev. D., Elm, Ark.
7. Kerekes, Rev. R., Chattanooga, Tenn.
8. Smith, Rev. H., Knoxville, Tenn.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Klautsch, Mr. Ralph, Tullahoma, Tenn.
2. Prevaillet, Mr. Donald, Blytheville, Ark.
3. Brabender, Mr. Lavaughn, Memphis, Tenn.
4. Gruenewald, Mr. Felix W., North Little Rock, Ark.
5. Bahr, Mr. Lloyd, Fort Smith, Ark.
6. Hahn, Mr. E. W., Hazen, Ark.
7. Christiansen, Mr. Charles, Hixson, Tenn.
8. Hartsell, Dr. Lester, Johnson City, Tenn.

C. Advisory Pastor

Grese, Rev. Everett, Memphis, Tenn.

D. Advisory Teacher

Robertson, Mr. Tom, Little Rock, Ark.

Minnesota North District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Drevlow, Rev. A. A., Ada, Minn.
2. Malotky, Rev. Raymond P., Park Rapids, Minn.
3. Guehna, Rev. Richard L., Perham, Minn.
4. Philaya, Rev. Leroy, Sebek, Minn.
5. Vuorinen, Rev. Eric, Port Arthur, Ont.
6. Bittner, Rev. Paul, Virginia, Minn.
7. Goebel, Rev. Richard, Duluth, Minn.
8. Kretschmar, Rev. M. H., Brainerd, Minn.
9. Hannah, Rev. John R., Royalton, Minn.
10. Hannemann, Rev. Herman, Hinckley, Minn.
11. Knick, Rev. Donald E., Fergus Falls, Minn.
12. Lassanske, Rev. K., Parkers Prairie, Minn.
13. Peterson, Rev. Merlin, Dumont, Minn.
14. Eschenbacher, Rev. George, Sauk Centre, Minn.
15. Mueller, Rev. L. F., Odessa, Minn.
16. Rehwaltd, Rev. T. H., Granite Falls, Minn.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Tripp, Mr. Harvey, East Grand Forks, Minn.
2. Tibbetts, Mr. Allen, Bagley, Minn.
3. Franklin, Mr. Charles, Frazee, Minn.
4. Piepkorn, Mr. Edwin, Hewitt, Minn.
5. Burak, Mr. Wm., Fort William, Ont.
6. Oman, Mr. Jack, Hoyt Lakes, Minn.
7. Smithson, Mr. Charles, Duluth, Minn.
8. Schlegelmilch, Mr. Gilbert, Crosby, Minn.
9. Marx, Mr. L. E., Sauk Rapids, Minn.
10. Dufek, Mr. Eugene, Stacy, Minn.
11. Puffe, Mr. Harry, Moorhead, Minn.
12. Krohnfeldt, Mr. Harold, Alexandria, Minn.
13. Lindig, Mr. Alvin, Wheaton, Minn.
14. Rosenow, Mr. Joyce, Long Prairie, Minn.
15. Mitteness, Mr. Donald, Benson, Minn.
16. Timm, Mr. Lowell, Wood Lake, Minn.

C. Advisory Pastor

Schultz, Rev. Wm. M., St. Cloud, Minn.

D. Advisory Teacher

Baumgartel, Mr. Mark W., Bethel, Minn.

Minnesota South District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Pullmann, Rev. Carl, Anoka, Minn.
2. Lutz, Rev. Edward, St. Paul, Minn.
3. Braun, Rev. Harold C., St. Paul, Minn.
4. Krause, Rev. Martin H., St. Paul Park, Minn.
5. Hinck, Rev. Ewald, Minneapolis, Minn.
6. Kretzmann, Rev. N. D., Minneapolis, Minn.
7. Buelow, Rev. Donald, Minneapolis, Minn.
8. Borchert, Rev. Edward, St. Paul, Minn.
9. Johnson, Rev. Bernard W., Minnetonka, Minn.
10. Mueller, Rev. Henry C., Watertown, Minn.
11. Marquardt, Rev. Reinhold, Gaylord, Minn.
12. Steinke, Rev. Norman E., Lester Prairie, Minn.
13. Reinke, Rev. Norbert A., St. Charles, Minn.
14. Lutz, Rev. Donald H., Rochester, Minn.
15. Gallman, Rev. Lawrence, Faribault, Minn.
16. Bussman, Rev. Herbert L., Albert Lea, Minn.
17. Eifert, Rev. E. H., Waseca, Minn.
18. Hoffmann, Rev. Franklin L., Elmore, Minn.
19. Harley, Rev. Vernon, Fairmont, Minn.
20. Goetz, Rev. Gerald, Courtland, Minn.
21. Drevlow, Rev. Arthur, St. James, Minn.
22. Naumann, Rev. John, Rushmore, Minn.
23. Schmalz, Rev. Alfred C., Luverne, Minn.
24. Krenzke, Rev. Theodore, Windom, Minn.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Banke, Mr. Egon, Anoka, Minn.
2. Miller, Mr. Robert W., St. Paul, Minn.
3. Proft, Mr. Walter, St. Paul, Minn.
4. Tepe, Mr. Charles, Red Wing, Minn.
5. Albrecht, Mr. Paul G., Minneapolis, Minn.
6. Clausen, Mr. Ernest, Minneapolis, Minn.
7. Sorum, Mr. Iot, Minneapolis, Minn.
8. Kienitz, Mr. Gary, Rosemount, Minn.
9. Thoeny, Mr. Glen, Hopkins, Minn.
10. Heitkamp, Mr. Reuben, Carver, Minn.
11. Brockhoff, Mr. Marvin, Green Isle, Minn.
12. Narr, Mr. Martin, Darwin, Minn.
13. Kratz, Mr. Claude, Stockton, Minn.
14. Holst, Mr. Norbert E., Rochester, Minn.
15. Lebahn, Mr. Merle, Owatonna, Minn.
16. Brand, Mr. Theodore H., Hollandale, Minn.
17. Eichhorst, Mr. Erwin, Waldorf, Minn.
18. Mittelsteadt, Mr. Harvey A., Winnebago, Minn.
19. Erdmann, Mr. Marvin, Ceylon, Minn.
20. Kiecker, Mr. Charles, New Ulm, Minn.
21. Klute, Mr. Wilbert, Lewisville, Minn.
22. Crippen, Mr. Gary, Worthington, Minn.
23. Busch, Mr. Kenneth, Hardwick, Minn.
24. Kruse, Mr. Erwin, Wabasso, Minn.

C. Advisory Pastors

Becker, Rev. Donald, Minneapolis, Minn.
Schroeder, Rev. Erwin, New Brighton, Minn.

D. Advisory Teachers

Gerdes, Mr. Walter F., Howard Lake, Minn.
Hinrichs, Mr. Edmund, Fairmont, Minn.
Lohse, Mr. Arnold, St. Paul, Minn.
Wolf, Mr. Robert, Winona, Minn.

Missouri District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Wolf, Rev. Erhard W. W., Uniontown, Mo.
2. Lange, Rev. Alvin, Dexter, Mo.
3. Rottmann, Rev. Ellis, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
4. Ulmer, Rev. Marvin, Moberly, Mo.
5. Woltmann, Rev. F. A., Bunceton, Mo.
6. Hellwege, Rev. Oscar, Marshall, Mo.
7. Meyer, Rev. Adolph, Warrensburg, Mo.
8. Zimmermann, Rev. Reinhardt, Hillsboro, Mo.
9. Graf, Rev. Arthur E., Jefferson City, Mo.
10. Hulse, Rev. Robert L., Kansas City, Mo.
11. Zunker, Rev. George, Farley, Mo.
12. Mehl, Rev. C. H., Kansas City, Mo.
13. Wohlfelt, Rev. Jerome V., Hannibal, Mo.
14. Feddersen, Rev. Earl, St. Clair, Mo.
15. Eifert, Rev. L. E., St. Charles, Mo.

CONVENTION ROSTER

16. Hansen, Rev. William, St. Louis, Mo.
17. Peters, Rev. Clarence, St. Louis, Mo.
18. Dubberke, Rev. Edwin H., St. Louis, Mo.
19. Bartels, Rev. Wesley, St. Louis, Mo.
20. Eichelberger, Rev. Albert, Manchester, Mo.
21. Fritz, Rev. Edwin J., St. Louis, Mo.
22. Strege, Rev. Arthur, Hazelwood, Mo.
23. Brockhoff, Rev. Robert, St. Louis, Mo.
24. Spree, Rev. Floyd H., Brentwood, Mo.
25. Kalthoff, Rev. James W., Sedalia, Mo.
26. Bramstedt, Rev. Paul W., Joplin, Mo.
27. Christiansen, Rev. Herman, Lebanon, Mo.
28. Rodewald, Rev. Alfred, Washington, Mo.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Eggers, Mr. Walter, Farrar, Mo.
2. Hilpert, Mr. Geo., Cape Girardeau, Mo.
3. Rauh, Mr. Charles, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
4. Gebhardt, Mr. Emil, Salisbury, Mo.
5. Schmidt, Dr. Don, Columbia, Mo.
6. Holsten, Mr. Raymond, Alma, Mo.
7. Schelp, Mr. Edwin H., Emma, Mo.
8. Achter, Mr. Donald, Pevelly, Mo.
9. Strobel, Mr. Clarence, California, Mo.
10. Jones, Mr. John P., Independence, Mo.
11. Howe, Mr. Henry, St. Joseph, Mo.
12. Kramer, Mr. Herbert, Kansas City, Mo.
13. Drebes, Mr. Earl Dean, Palmyra, Mo.
14. Haas, Mr. Albert, Rolla, Mo.
15. Beumer, Mr. Stan, St. Charles, Mo.
16. Randle, Mr. Seth, St. Louis, Mo.
17. Krieger, Mr. W. Herbert, St. Louis, Mo.
18. Rau, Mr. Elmer, Richmond Heights, Mo.
19. Conant, Mr. William, St. Louis, Mo.
20. Rathert, Mr. Alfred J., Fenton, Mo.
21. Piehl, Mr. E. Willis, St. Louis, Mo.
22. Roedemeier, Mr. Harold, Bridgeton, Mo.
23. Guebert, Mr. Elmer, St. Louis, Mo.
24. Luecke, Mr. Oliver, Glendale, Mo.
25. Denker, Mr. Carl, Cole Camp, Mo.
26. Bracht, Mr. David, Mount Vernon, Mo.
27. Farr, Mr. Tom, Marshfield, Mo.
28. Mertz, Mr. Ernest, Rosebud, Mo.

C. Advisory Pastors

- Beins, Rev. Paul, St. Louis, Mo.
 Ehrlich, Rev. Jerry D., Cape Girardeau, Mo.
 La Bore, Rev. Richard L., St. Louis, Mo.
 Ludwig, Rev. William H., Independence, Mo.
 Meinzen, Rev. Erwin H., St. Louis, Mo.
 Schlie, Rev. David, St. Louis, Mo.
 Siess, Rev. Kenneth J., Crestwood, Mo.
 Stohs, Rev. Milton E., St. Louis, Mo.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Beikmann, Mr. Ralph H., St. Louis, Mo.
 Brauer, Mr. Paul G., St. Louis, Mo.
 Eggerding, Mr. Roland R., St. Louis, Mo.
 Gassner, Mr. Theo., St. Louis, Mo.
 Grundmann, Mr. C. Fred, St. Louis, Mo.
 Hagenmueller, Mr. Ernest H., Manchester, Mo.
 Jabker, Mr. Paul W., St. Louis, Mo.
 Leckband, Mr. Virgil E., Concordia, Mo.
 Schroeder, Mr. Willard F., St. Louis, Mo.
 Square, Mr. Arthur E., Arnold, Mo.

Montana District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Tormohlen, Rev. Leo, Forsyth, Mont.
2. Freiburger, Rev. Paul M., Billings, Mont.
3. Raedeke, Rev. Norman L., Havre, Mont.
4. Huber, Rev. Harold V., Kalispell, Mont.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Dent, Mr. Joseph, Miles City, Mont.
2. Thrans, Mr. Robert, Bozeman, Mont.
3. Gysler, Mr. Ervin, Fort Benton, Mont.
4. Brackebusch, Mr. Arthur, Missoula, Mont.

D. Advisory Teacher

- Leapaldt, Mr. Reuben L., Billings, Mont.

North Dakota District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Hartfield, Rev. Clemens, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
2. Sprengler, Rev. Donald H., Stirum, N. Dak.
3. Allwardt, Rev. Theodore E. Sr., Oakes, N. Dak.
4. Schuler, Rev. Herbert G., New Salem, N. Dak.
5. Wendland, Rev. Leland, Minot, N. Dak.
6. Steenbock, Rev. Elmer, Bottineau, N. Dak.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Maxwell, Mr. James, Grafton, N. Dak.
2. Loessin, Mr. Merle, Hammer, S. Dak.

3. Peterson, Mr. Ted, Jamestown, N. Dak.
4. Huber, Mr. Elmer, Hazen, N. Dak.
5. Reiner, Mr. Elmer, Minot, N. Dak.
6. Effraimson, Mr. Rudy, Rock Lake, N. Dak.

C. Advisory Pastor

- Rubbett, Rev. Felix A., Fargo, N. Dak.

D. Advisory Teacher

- Liebert, Mr. John, Fargo, N. Dak.

North Wisconsin District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Buelow, Rev. Leonard P., Green Bay, Wis.
2. Sengele, Rev. Martin, Pulcifer, Wis.
3. Joss, Rev. Virgil, Bonduel, Wis.
4. Wesener, Rev. Donald, Tigerton, Wis.
5. Luedtke, Rev. Carl, Manawa, Wis.
6. Sippola, Rev. J. William, Marquette, Mich.
7. Schultz, Rev. Joseph, Antigo, Wis.
8. Ludwig, Rev. Arnold W., Merrill, Wis.
9. Eggold, Rev. Paul, Wausau, Wis.
10. Reith, Rev. Merlin L., Port Edwards, Wis.
11. Messerschmidt, Rev. Eldore, Marshfield, Wis.
12. Brege, Rev. Clifford, Bessemer, Mich.
13. Homp, Rev. Gerald, Butternut, Wis.
14. Urman, Rev. Leroy, Withee, Wis.
15. Cizek, Rev. C. J., Chippewa Falls, Wis.
16. Nack, Rev. Richard, Mondovi, Wis.
17. Ross, Rev. Harold E., Spooner, Wis.
18. Giese, Rev. Gordon, Amery, Wis.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Natzke, Mr. Amos, Greenleaf, Wis.
2. Wichman, Mr. Ray, Gillett, Wis.
3. Feivor, Mr. Frank, Shawano, Wis.
4. Pike, Mr. Richard, Wittenberg, Wis.
5. Froehlich, Mr. Fred, Appleton, Wis.
6. Ruesch, Mr. Hartwig, Iron Mountain, Mich.
7. Tews, Mr. Walter, Antigo, Wis.
8. Leiter, Mr. O. John, Tomahawk, Wis.
9. Sievert, Dr. James A., Wausau, Wis.
10. Rickman, Mr. E. J., Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.
11. Thuss, Mr. Elmer, Marshfield, Wis.
12. Bonitz, Mr. Carl Jr., Mellen, Wis.
13. Gustafson, Mr. Ernest, Park Falls, Wis.
14. Schulz, Mr. Calvin, Owen, Wis.
15. Nauss, Mr. John, Eau Claire, Wis.
16. Clark, Mr. Gus, Augusta, Wis.
17. Driver, Mr. Edwin, Rice Lake, Wis.
18. Foust, Mr. Floyd, New Richmond, Wis.

C. Advisory Pastor

- Murray, Rev. James E., Merrill, Wis.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Czech, Mr. Richard, Athens, Wis.
 Kleinschmidt, Mr. Wilbur, Shawano, Wis.

Northern Illinois District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Kretzmann, Rev. Adalbert, Chicago, Ill.
2. Clausen, Rev. Robert, Elmwood Park, Ill.
3. Krueger, Rev. W. James, Skokie, Ill.
4. Reddel, Rev. Eugene, North Chicago, Ill.
5. Zeile, Rev. Erhard A., Mount Prospect, Ill.
6. Nieting, Rev. Edmund, Wood Dale, Ill.
7. Laesch, Rev. Norman, Barrington, Ill.
8. Hess, Rev. Robert M., Cary, Ill.
9. Rabe, Rev. Gail, Crystal Lake, Ill.
10. Weiss, Rev. Theodore A., Rochelle, Ill.
11. Schmidt, Rev. Gale, Chicago, Ill.
12. Steinhoff, Rev. John, Cicero, Ill.
13. Felten, Rev. Victor, Berwyn, Ill.
14. Lutze, Rev. John E., Downers Grove, Ill.
15. Schelling, Rev. James, Franklin Park, Ill.
16. Fisher, Rev. Walter, Elmhurst, Ill.
17. Hager, Rev. Harry A., Lisle, Ill.
18. Lindemann, Rev. Jerald, Aurora, Ill.
19. Lamp, Rev. Walter, Rockford, Ill.
20. Pingel, Rev. Gilbert, Elizabeth, Ill.
21. Frick, Rev. Martin, Chicago, Ill.
22. Webern, Rev. Martin W., Chicago, Ill.
23. Wessler, Rev. Raymond, Calumet City, Ill.
24. Dissen, Rev. David V., Chicago, Ill.
25. Weber, Rev. Wilbert M., Chicago, Ill.
26. Wunderlich, Rev. Harold, Ottawa, Ill.
27. Ledogar, Rev. Walter A., Orland Park, Ill.
28. Zielke, Rev. Wilbur W., Lansing, Ill.
29. Adam, Rev. William, Bonfield, Ill.
30. Royer, Rev. William M., Herscher, Ill.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Dedert, Mr. Julius, Chicago, Ill.
2. Hannenber, Mr. Richard, Chicago, Ill.

3. Wille, Mr. Elmer, Chicago, Ill.
4. Beverly, Mr. Sherman, Deerfield, Ill.
5. Glawe, Mr. Richard, Palatine, Ill.
6. Koriath, Mr. E. G., Itasca, Ill.
7. Bartelt, Mr. Milton, Dundee, Ill.
8. Boehmer, Mr. George, Round Lake, Ill.
9. Rohlwing, Mr. Wilmer, Huntley, Ill.
10. Meier, Mr. Henry, De Kalb, Ill.
11. Broecker, Mr. Mark, Chicago, Ill.
12. Christopher, Mr. Walter, River Forest, Ill.
13. Rodeck, Mr. Roland, River Forest, Ill.
14. Sparks, Mr. Leonard, Hodgkins, Ill.
15. Zoske, Mr. Robert, River Grove, Ill.
16. Sievert, Mr. Clarence, Bensenville, Ill.
17. Mueller, Mr. Weldon, Geneva, Ill.
18. Kolba, Mr. Verne M., Plainfield, Ill.
19. Daucher, Mr. Paul, Rockford, Ill.
20. Klekamp, Mr. Harlen, Freeport, Ill.
21. Lense, Mr. Edwin H., Chicago, Ill.
22. Krueger, Mr. Herbert, Evergreen Park, Ill.
23. Young, Mr. Oliver, Harvey, Ill.
24. Schmidt, Mr. Edmund R. H., Hometown, Ill.
25. James, Mr. Henry, Chicago, Ill.
26. Schmidt, Mr. Robert, Downers Grove, Ill.
27. Lindemann, Mr. Robert, Park Forest, Ill.
28. Brauer, Mr. Ralph, Chicago Heights, Ill.
29. Hoppensteadt, Mr. Walter, Beecher, Ill.
30. Schroeder, Mr. Virgil, Milford, Ill.

C. Advisory Pastors

- Cooper, Rev. Adam, Oak Lawn, Ill.
 Danner, Rev. Bernard, Oak Park, Ill.
 Eissfeldt, Rev. Walther, Joliet, Ill.
 Scheibert, Rev. Ernest, Melrose Park, Ill.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Eichert, Mr. Lawrence, Melrose Park, Ill.
 Hann, Mr. Arthur, Lombard, Ill.
 Hentscher, Mr. Robert, Rockford, Ill.
 Kuehm, Mr. Lewis, Chicago, Ill.
 Leoschke, Mr. Floyd, Glenview, Ill.
 Roth, Mr. Edgar, Milford, Ill.
 Schmidt, Mr. Karl, Chicago, Ill.
 Strayer, Mr. James, Chicago, Ill.
 Wunderlich, Mr. Ernest, Matteson, Ill.

Northern Nebraska District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Ondov, Rev. Daniel, Omaha, Nebr.
2. Bek, Rev. Edwin C., Omaha, Nebr.
3. Nickel, Rev. David, Scribner, Nebr.
4. Niemann, Rev. Henry Jr., Bancroft, Nebr.
5. Bernthal, Rev. E. J., Wayne, Nebr.
6. Russert, Rev. Martin L., Norfolk, Nebr.
7. Hoyer, Rev. Martin, Plainview, Nebr.
8. Knippenberg, Rev. Keith J., Chambers, Nebr.
9. Bornemann, Rev. Martin, Columbus, Nebr.
10. Krohn, Rev. O. E., Alliance, Nebr.
11. Mueller, Rev. Oscar L., Gillette, Wyo.
12. Behrens, Rev. Rollin H., Lander, Wyo.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Wandell, Mr. Eugene, Omaha, Nebr.
2. Buller, Mr. Jim, Omaha, Nebr.
3. Schuette, Mr. Elmer, Fremont, Nebr.
4. Hass, Mr. Henry, Pilger, Nebr.
5. Book, Mr. John, Ponca, Nebr.
6. Hill, Mr. Thomas, Norfolk, Nebr.
7. Wehyrich, Mr. Edward, Clearwater, Nebr.
8. Macanek, Mr. Joseph, Lynch, Nebr.
9. Grotelueschen, Mr. Melvin, Columbus, Nebr.
10. Craft, Mr. Franklin H., Gering, Nebr.
11. Guess, Mr. Roy, Casper, Wyo.
12. Petersen, Mr. Vic, Greybull, Wyo.

C. Advisory Pastor

- Meschke, Rev. B. F., Columbus, Nebr.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Dehning, Mr. Mervin, Hooper, Nebr.
 Eggert, Mr. Walter, Fremont, Nebr.

Northwest District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Hinrichs, Rev. Donald W., Roseburg, Oreg.
2. Larson, Rev. James G., Hood River, Oreg.
3. Peterson, Rev. Howard M., Portland, Oreg.
4. Gross, Rev. Richard, Hillsboro, Oreg.
5. Schulze, Rev. Victor A., Parma, Idaho

6. Muhly, Rev. Lester E., Idaho Falls, Idaho
7. Belasic, Rev. David S., Spokane, Wash.
8. Wenzel, Rev. Elmer, Monroe, Wash.
9. Last, Rev. Carl N., Seattle, Wash.
10. Preisinger, Rev. David, Seattle, Wash.
11. Gerken, Rev. Erwin, Puyallup, Wash.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Long, Mr. Norman, Eugene, Oreg.
2. —
3. Stuebe, Mr. Paul, Portland, Oreg.
4. LaValley, Mr. Richard, Vancouver, Wash.
5. Hogan, Mr. Harold, Boise, Idaho
6. Hill, Mr. Eugene, Paul, Idaho
7. Reese, Mr. Walt, Kennewick, Wash.
8. Erdman, Mr. Clarence A., Bellingham, Wash.
9. Hinz, Mr. Marvin, Fairbanks, Alaska
10. Jaech, Mr. Karl, Seattle, Wash.
11. Stoehr, Mr. Phil, Shelton, Wash.

C. Advisory Pastor

Weiss, Rev. W. George, Seattle, Wash.

D. Advisory Teacher

Ladendorf, Mr. Richard D., Kennewick, Wash.

Ohio District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Zehnder, Rev. Ronald, Stow, Ohio
2. Hewitt, Rev. Martin, Lakewood, Ohio
3. Mueller, Rev. Ronald, Cleveland, Ohio
4. Ziegler, Rev. Arthur, Cleveland, Ohio
5. Swigart, Rev. Philip, Amherst, Ohio
6. Abendroth, Rev. E. C., Euclid, Ohio
7. Rantala, Rev. Clarence, Thompson, Ohio
8. Meister, Rev. Harold, Defiance, Ohio
9. Weber, Rev. Paul A., Napoleon, Ohio
10. Beuschlein, Rev. Carl, Toledo, Ohio
11. Scheidt, Rev. Arthur, Cincinnati, Ohio
12. Stanko, Rev. Paul, Columbus, Ohio
13. Nisch, Rev. W. O., Parkersburg, W. Va.
14. Kurz, Rev. Victor, Middletown, Ohio

B. Voting Laymen

1. Schneider, Mr. Edward, Aurora, Ohio
2. Teske, Mr. Eugene, Willowick, Ohio
3. Linx, Mr. Edmund, Cleveland, Ohio
4. Albers, Mr. Herbert, North Olmsted, Ohio
5. Huebner, Mr. Martin, Elyria, Ohio
6. Proehl, Mr. E. W., Willoughby, Ohio
7. Rutz, Mr. Fred C., Painesville, Ohio
8. Kammeyer, Mr. Fred, Antwerp, Ohio
9. Heckler, Mr. Don F., Napoleon, Ohio
10. Miller, Mr. Blair, Elmore, Ohio
11. Nobis, Mr. Marvin, Cincinnati, Ohio
12. Lenz, Mr. Vernon, Newark, Ohio
13. Olson, Mr. Larry, Huntington, W. Va.
14. Yohpe, Mr. William, Dayton, Ohio

C. Advisory Pastor

Tonn, Rev. Randell, Lakewood, Ohio

D. Advisory Teachers

Bunsold, Mr. Elmer, Defiance, Ohio
 Goodman, Mr. Lee, Cincinnati, Ohio
 House, Mr. Joseph, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
 Nestler, Mr. Robert, Lakewood, Ohio
 Seboldt, Mr. Frank, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Oklahoma District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Kjergaard, Rev. Carlton, Covington, Okla.
2. Faga, Rev. Robert, Granite, Okla.
3. Knippa, Rev. Clarence, Tulsa, Okla.
4. Hall, Rev. Lester, Oklahoma City, Okla.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Bromlow, Mr. Dan, Fargo, Okla.
2. Petrowsky, Dr. Clarence, Weatherford, Okla.
3. Batson, Mr. Alonzo, Tulsa, Okla.
4. Zajic, Mr. Albert, Oklahoma City, Okla.

D. Advisory Teacher

Krug, Mr. Warren, Ponca City, Okla.

Ontario District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Prusha, Rev. Lester, Fruitland, Ont.
2. Maschke, Rev. Robert, Windsor, Ont.
3. Kleidon, Rev. Norbert, Hanover, Ont.
4. Korkok, Rev. John, Kitchener, Ont.
5. Reisdorf, Rev. Ronald, Pembroke, Ont.
6. Kliffner, Rev. John, Georgetown, Ont.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Goertz, Mr. David, St. Catharines, Ont.
2. Stewart, Mr. Victor, St. Thomas, Ont.

3. Miller, Mr. Reinhold, Dashwood, Ont.
4. Bald, Mr. Robert, Kitchener, Ont.
5. Munz, Mr. Victor, Richmond, Ont.
6. Warren, Mr. Don, Port Credit, Ont.

C. Advisory Pastor

Erdman, Rev. Horace H., Waterloo, Ont.

South Dakota District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Korte, Rev. Carl, Brookings, S. Dak.
2. Crosmer, Rev. Elmer H., Scotland, S. Dak.
3. Eberbach, Rev. Fred, Willmot, S. Dak.
4. Evers, Rev. Karl H., Emery, S. Dak.
5. Gocken, Rev. Ronald, Chamberlain, S. Dak.
6. Kroening, Rev. Elmer, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
7. Helling, Rev. Melbourne F., Mansfield, S. Dak.
8. Rehley, Rev. James W., Redfield, S. Dak.
9. Crosmer, Rev. A. J., Rapid City, S. Dak.
10. Neumann, Rev. W. F., Mitchell, S. Dak.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Eilers, Mr. Alvin, Colman, S. Dak.
2. Rehwalddt, Mr. Don, Wagner, S. Dak.
3. Johnson, Dr. E. A., Milbank, S. Dak.
4. Schamber, Mr. Gerhard, Freeman, S. Dak.
5. Wenger, Mr. Norman, Gregory, S. Dak.
6. Schaefer, Mr. Emil, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.
7. Stensland, Mr. Ralph W., Ipswich, S. Dak.
8. Scheibe, Mr. Donald, Huron, S. Dak.
9. Wildermuth, Dr. W. P., Lead, S. Dak.
10. Fuoss, Mr. Ed, Armour, S. Dak.

South Wisconsin District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Barth, Rev. Karl L., West Allis, Wis.
2. Hoffmann, Rev. Albert G., Milwaukee, Wis.
3. Bartelt, Rev. Victor A., Elm Grove, Wis.
4. Neitzel, Rev. Elmer, Milwaukee, Wis.
5. Krause, Rev. Edward A., Milwaukee, Wis.
6. Wangerin, Rev. Harvey W., Milwaukee, Wis.
7. Greve, Rev. Edgar G., Port Washington, Wis.
8. Senn, Rev. Arthur C., Fredonia, Wis.
9. Stellwagen, Rev. Robert F., Sheboygan, Wis.
10. Gumz, Rev. Bernard C., Manitowoc, Wis.
11. Novotney, Rev. Robert L., Chilton, Wis.
12. Moll, Rev. Walter H., Oshkosh, Wis.
13. Schedler, Rev. Arthur M., Berlin, Wis.
14. Scheer, Rev. R. William, Wisconsin Dells, Wis.
15. Pingel, Rev. John, Loganville, Wis.
16. Timler, Rev. Theodore W., Portage, Wis.
17. Wilke, Rev. Donald C., Delavan, Wis.
18. Schaefer, Rev. Armin C., Racine, Wis.
19. Kauffeld, Rev. Eugene P., Watertown, Wis.
20. Stoehr, Rev. Waldemar C., Waupun, Wis.
21. Suelflow, Rev. Edwin S., Milwaukee, Wis.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Drews, Mr. Hilbert, Greendale, Wis.
2. Stoehr, Mr. Paul, Milwaukee, Wis.
3. Werk, Mr. Allen, Menomonee Falls, Wis.
4. Toebe, Mr. Reinhart C., Milwaukee, Wis.
5. Janke, Mr. Alvin, Milwaukee, Wis.
6. —
7. Landdeck, Mr. Roland, West Bend, Wis.
8. Ramel, Mr. Orville, Random Lake, Wis.
9. Bub, Mr. Elmer, Sheboygan, Wis.
10. Senkbeil, Mr. Herbert, Sheboygan, Wis.
11. Classen, Mr. Melvin, Plymouth, Wis.
12. Bahr, Mr. Raymond, Oshkosh, Wis.
13. Jorgensen, Mr. Vernon, Poy Sippi, Wis.
14. Dee, Mr. Arthur, Coloma, Wis.
15. Dieter, Mr. Lloyd, Muscoda, Wis.
16. Franke, Mr. Paul, McFarland, Wis.
17. Farmer, Mr. Bernard, Edgerton, Wis.
18. Pfeiffer, Mr. Edward, Racine, Wis.
19. Klein, Mr. Harold, Hartland, Wis.
20. Bentz, Mr. Roman, Fox Lake, Wis.
21. Druckrey, Mr. Don, Brown Deer, Wis.

C. Advisory Pastors

Hoyer, Rev. Marvin E., Sheboygan, Wis.
 Lobien, Rev. George F., Madison, Wis.
 Oberhue, Rev. Lester A., Racine, Wis.
 Prenzlow, Rev. Elmer J., Fox Point, Wis.
 Tubising, Rev. Karl A., Milwaukee, Wis.

D. Advisory Teachers

Valleskey, Mr. Aron A., Menomonee Falls, Wis.
 Bernthal, Mr. Edward, Racine, Wis.

Brandt, Mr. George R., Wilwaukee, Wis.
 Gersmehl, Mr. Lienhard W., Janesville, Wis.
 Grass, Mr. Paul J., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Meyer, Mr. Wendell N., Mequon, Wis.
 Radl, Mr. Clarence G., Oshkosh, Wis.
 Richter, Mr. Herbert W., Watertown, Wis.
 Stellwagen, Mr. Leonard J., Milwaukee, Wis.

Southeastern District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Mueller, Rev. Geo., Wilmington, Del.
2. Fink, Rev. Roger W., Lutherville, Md.
3. Maack, Rev. Roy A., Baltimore, Md.
4. Bielenberg, Rev. Albert, Baltimore, Md.
5. Maack, Rev. Alvin, Baltimore, Md.
6. Juergensen, Rev. Arthur, Hyattsville, Md.
7. Barth, Rev. Bruce W., Cumberland, Md.
8. Graudin, Rev. John E., Alexandria, Va.
9. Blumhorst, Rev. Roy, Washington, D. C.
10. Kurzweg, Rev. Bernhard, Richmond, Va.
11. Volz, Rev. Walter D., Raleigh, N. C.
12. Wolf, Rev. Lester, Hickory, N. C.
13. Poole, Rev. John D., Concord, N. C.
14. Reidenbach, Rev. Kenneth, Conover, N. C.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Claussen, Mr. Howard, Newark, Del.
2. Schroeder, Mr. Leo, Baltimore, Md.
3. Ford, Mr. Frank D., Baltimore, Md.
4. Burkhardt, Mr. George, Baltimore, Md.
5. Maerten, Mr. Duane, Ellicott City, Md.
6. Lively, Mr. Kellis E., Lanham, Md.
7. Elsberry, Mr. Donald, Bethesda, Md.
8. Gally, Mr. Robert, Vienna, Va.
9. Fennell, Mr. Willv, Upper Marlboro, Md.
10. Baker, Mr. Leland, Wavnesboro, Va.
11. Von Fange, Mr. Gene, Portsmouth, Va.
12. Leacraft, Mr. Paul, Greensboro, N. C.
13. Fruechtenicht, Mr. Paul, Greenville, S. C.
14. Mackie, Mr. Clarence, Newton, N. C.

C. Advisory Pastors

Alms, Rev. Richard L., Ellicott City, Md.
 Hinz, Rev. Richard T., Lutherville, Md.

D. Advisory Teachers

Hoerauf, Mr. Norman, Hyattsville, Md.
 Reder, Mr. Donald, Conover, N. C.
 Wunderlich, Mr. Kenneth, Baltimore, Md.

Southern District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Holz, Rev. Herbert, Jr., New Orleans, La.
2. Coyner, Rev. Edwin L., New Orleans, La.
3. Freed, Rev. John, Metairie, La.
4. Ehrhardt, Rev. Walton, Biloxi, Miss.
5. Scheer, Rev. Raymond P., Shreveport, La.
6. Licht, Rev. Kenneth, Jackson, Miss.
7. Hernetz, Rev. Harold G., Cullman, Ala.
8. Schultz, Rev. Victor, Birmingham, Ala.
9. Weisheit, Rev. Eldon, Montgomery, Ala.
10. Ziehr, Rev. Richard O., Fort Walton Beach, Fla.
11. Saint Pierre, Rev. R., Fairhope, Ala.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Brown, Mr. Peter, New Orleans, La.
2. Demouy, Mr. Jesse E., New Orleans, La.
3. Russo, Mr. James, New Orleans, La.
4. Hughes, Mr. Joseph, Jr., Baton Rouge, La.
5. Huffman, Mr. Leland, Lafayette, La.
6. Florreich, Mr. Russell, West Point, Miss.
7. Hopkins, Mr. R. V., Huntsville, Ala.
8. —
9. Wiese, Mr. Harris, Enterprise, Ala.
10. Snell, Mr. Fred, Panama City, Fla.
11. Herzfeld, Mr. Julius, Jr., Mobile, Ala.

C. Advisory Pastors

—

D. Advisory Teacher

Adam, Mr. David, New Orleans, La.

Southern California District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Schwolert, Rev. Norman W., Camarillo, Calif.
2. Meyer, Rev. R. Z., Woodland Hills, Calif.
3. Rieck, Rev. John W., La Canada, Calif.
4. Kalthoff, Rev. R. H., Los Angeles, Calif.
5. Warneke, Rev. Lloyd C., Torrance, Calif.
6. Lehman, Rev. Harvey J., Los Angeles, Calif.
7. Nieman, Rev. Henry F., Rosemead, Calif.
8. Wolter, Rev. Robert W., Whittier, Calif.
9. Duerr, Rev. George F., Downey, Calif.

10. Fackler, Rev. William J., Long Beach, Calif.
11. Joeckel, Rev. David B., Hacienda Heights, Calif.
12. Duerr, Rev. William L., Santa Ana, Calif.
13. Matthias, Rev. Elmer W., Anaheim, Calif.
14. Siefkes, Rev. William F., Fontana, Calif.
15. Graudin, Rev. Arthur F., Claremont, Calif.
16. Kusel, Rev. Ronald J., Elsinore, Calif.
17. Perling, Rev. R. John, Yucca Valley, Calif.
18. Fink, Rev. Robin O., Barstow, Calif.
19. Laatz, Rev. Willard C., San Diego, Calif.
20. Gieck, Rev. William R., Chula Vista, Calif.
21. Fuerbringer, Rev. Ken, Tempe, Ariz.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Christman, Mr. Wesley, Goleta, Calif.
2. Butz, Mr. Thomas, Simi, Calif.
3. Haase, Mr. Adolph, Glendale, Calif.
4. Maas, Mr. John D., Los Angeles, Calif.
5. Faucett, Mr. Jack, Manhattan Beach, Calif.
6. Covington, Mr. Robert, Los Angeles, Calif.
7. Garner, Dr. Donald, Arcadia, Calif.
8. Pflueger, Mr. Ed, Whittier, Calif.
9. Caldwell, Mr. Harry, Bell Gardens, Calif.
10. Finlayson, Mr. Paul, Los Alamitos, Calif.
11. Haas, Mr. Wayne C., La Puente, Calif.
12. Garmon, Mr. William, Santa Ana, Calif.
13. Dannemeyer, Mr. William E., Fullerton, Calif.
14. Ebmeier, Mr. Ed, Redlands, Calif.
15. Englestad, Mr. Earl, Chino, Calif.
16. Wolwod, Mr. William, Sun City, Calif.
17. Stephenson, Mr. Harold, Needles, Calif.
18. Paustell, Mr. Gerald, Hesperia, Calif.
19. Collier, Mr. Edward, San Diego, Calif.
20. Camberg, Mr. C. L., Imperial Beach, Calif.
21. List, Dr. Martin, Phoenix, Ariz.

C. Advisory Pastors

- Schmidt, Rev. Amos A., Los Angeles, Calif.
Tietjen, Rev. Ottomar H., Sepulveda, Calif.
Wachholz, Rev. Lawrence E., Alhambra, Calif.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Juergensen, Mr. Martin F., Glendale, Calif.
Melssner, Mr. Walter, Altadena, Calif.
Pingel, Mr. Milton J., Riverside, Calif.
Schliebe, Mr. Charles A., Orange, Calif.
Seboldt, Mr. Everett G., Long Beach, Calif.
Simpson, Mr. Donald L., Glendora, Calif.
Weertz, Mr. Paul, Anaheim, Calif.

Southern Illinois District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Matzke, Rev. Marvin L., Nokomis, Ill.
2. Ledebuhr, Rev. Arthur A., Jerseyville, Ill.

3. Twietmeyer, Rev. Arvin, Granite City, Ill.
4. Miller, Rev. Donald H., Belleville, Ill.
5. Kahre, Rev. Robert W., Carlyle, Ill.
6. Kuring, Rev. Henry, Jr., Red Bud, Ill.
7. Loesch, Rev. Donald D., Murphysboro, Ill.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Wolff, Mr. Marlon, Litchfield, Ill.
2. Brueckner, Mr. Miles R., Alton, Ill.
3. Heuchert, Mr. Vernon, Worden, Ill.
4. Wegener, Mr. Irwin, Belleville, Ill.
5. Pries, Mr. Gustav, Hoyleton, Ill.
6. Tietje, Mr. Sig, Sparta, Ill.
7. Keim, Mr. Roland, Carbondale, Ill.

C. Advisory Pastor

- Baerwald, Rev. Reuben, Carbondale, Ill.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Haertling, Mr. Leonard, Nashville, Ill.
Hinze, Mr. Elmer, Dorsey, Ill.

Southern Nebraska District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Jordening, Rev. Victor, Lexington, Nebr.
2. Prange, Rev. E. H., Tobias, Nebr.
3. Kovac, Rev. John D., Deshler, Nebr.
4. Stelzer, Rev. Harold T., Elk Creek, Nebr.
5. Harms, Rev. Robert, Hastings, Nebr.
6. Stolp, Rev. Armin, Shelton, Nebr.
7. Ernst, Rev. Alfred H., Lincoln, Nebr.
8. Meyer, Rev. Walter A., Imperial, Nebr.
9. Seefeldt, Rev. Walter, Sidney, Nebr.
10. Kluhsman, Rev. Merrill, Grand Island, Nebr.
11. Heck, Rev. Jack D., Rock Springs, Wyo.
12. Witte, Rev. Louis, Gresham, Nebr.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Kuhlman, Mr. Victor, North Platte, Nebr.
2. Holle, Mr. Arlin, Beatrice, Nebr.
3. Friedens, Mr. Earl, Shickley, Nebr.
4. Lammle, Mr. Wait, Peru, Nebr.
5. Seyler, Mr. Harold, Grand Island, Nebr.
6. Mietzner, Mr. Julius, Hildreth, Nebr.
7. Bernet, Mr. Gordon, Ravenna, Nebr.
8. Retzlaff, Mr. Ralph, Greenwood, Nebr.
9. Mullanix, Mr. Jim, Benkelman, Nebr.
10. —
11. Svalstad, Mr. Alvin, Jackson, Wyo.
12. Roehrs, Dr. Walter, York, Nebr.

C. Advisory Pastor

- Ollenburg, Rev. W. C., Lincoln, Nebr.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Brueggemann, Mr. Wallace W., Lincoln, Nebr.
Hartmann, Mr. Donald V., Lincoln, Nebr.
Nepermann, Mr. Marcus, Crete, Nebr.

Texas District**A. Voting Pastors**

1. Herring, Rev. Melvin, Pampa, Tex.
2. Neunaber, Rev. Elmer, Lubbock, Tex.

3. Ebert, Rev. David, Hamilton, Tex.
4. Boriack, Rev. Carl, Cisco, Tex.
5. Giraud, Rev. Frederick C., Fort Worth, Tex.
6. Walter, Rev. Alvin A., Malone, Tex.
7. Jacobsmeier, Rev. Harold, Dallas, Tex.
8. Heiberg, Rev. Robert, Texarkana, Tex.
9. Albers, Rev. Gordon H., Bryan, Tex.
10. Schmid, Rev. John, Nederland, Tex.
11. Kollmeyer, Rev. Glenn, Baytown, Tex.
12. Oesch, Rev. Eugene, Houston, Tex.
13. Dittloff, Rev. Wayne, Houston, Tex.
14. Bielefeldt, Rev. Walker, Wharton, Tex.
15. Fox, Rev. Keith C., Austin, Tex.
16. Tschatschula, Rev. Marvin, New Braunfels, Tex.
17. Brown, Rev. Edwin T., Pearsall, Tex.
18. Wotrich, Rev. Herbert, Kingsville, Tex.

B. Voting Laymen

1. Hooper, Mr. Henry T., Hale Center, Tex.
2. Schneider, Mr. Walter, Midland, Tex.
3. Coldeway, Mr. Harry, Brooksmith, Tex.
4. Frieling, Mr. Oscar, Devol, Okla.
5. Johannessen, Mr. Bob, Arlington, Tex.
6. Pick, Mr. Buck H., Waco, Tex.
7. Gulswey, Mr. W. F., Dallas, Tex.
8. Gast, Mr. Elmer, Dallas, Tex.
9. Holotik, Mr. Lonnie, Tyler, Tex.
10. Nauss, Mr. J. E., Beaumont, Tex.
11. Orlowski, Mr. Marvin, Houston, Tex.
12. Bockhaus, Mr. Gilbert, Houston, Tex.
13. Schneider, Mr. H. A., Houston, Tex.
14. Zuhn, Mr. William, La Grange, Tex.
15. Palmer, Mr. Douglas D., Austin, Tex.
16. Mumm, Mr. Harry L., Kerrville, Tex.
17. Hendricksen, Mr. N. A., Brownsville, Tex.
18. Koop, Mr. Arnold, Edna, Tex.

C. Advisory Pastors

- Hobus, Rev. Robert A., Dallas, Tex.
Preisinger, Rev. Arthur A., Lubbock, Tex.

D. Advisory Teachers

- Doering, Mr. W. O., Sr., Houston, Tex.
Dunk, Mr. Carl, Sr., Austin, Tex.
Geihlsler, Mr. Alfred, Bishop, Tex.
Hohle, Mr. Gilbert, Thorndale, Tex.
Maas, Mr. Richard, Houston, Tex.
Ruehs, Mr. Reinhold, Houston, Tex.
Schaefer, Mr. E. B., Houston, Tex.

Argentine District**Brazil District****A. Voting Pastors**

1. Ott, Rev. Norberto, Canoas, R. G. S.
2. Gedrat, Rev. Johannes, Canela, R. G. S.
3. Sonntag, Rev. Bruno, Santa Rosa, R. G. S.
4. —
5. —

B. Voting Laymen

1. Reimnitz, Mr. Elroi, Canoas, R. G. S.
2. Rieth, Mr. Ari, Novo Hamburgo, R. G. S.
3. —
4. —
5. Mattis, Mr. Alberto, Porto Alegre

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Brazil District

Reimnitz, Rev. Elmer, Canoas, RGS, Braz.

California and Nevada District

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Central Illinois District
Niemoeller, Rev. Lewis C., Springfield, Ill.

Colorado District
Meyer, Rev. Waldemar E., Albuquerque, N. Mex.

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Frincke, Rev. Herman R., Buffalo, N. Y.

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Iowa District East
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Tabular Survey

Synodical District	Delegates Present							Delegates Absent				
	Voting			Advisory				Voting		Advisory		
	Pastors	Laymen	Totals	Pres or V.-P.	Pastors	Teachers	Totals	Pastors	Laymen	Pastors	Teachers	Totals
Atlantic	31	29	60	1	7	7	15	0	2	0	1	3
California and Nevada	12	12	24	1	3	2	6	0	0	0	1	1
California, Southern	21	21	42	1	3	7	11	0	0	0	0	0
Colorado	9	9	18	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern	11	11	22	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
English	17	17	34	1	6	4	11	0	0	0	0	0
Florida-Georgia	7	7	14	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Illinois, Central	12	12	24	1	1	3	5	0	0	0	0	0
Illinois, Northern	30	30	60	1	4	9	14	0	0	0	0	0
Illinois, Southern	7	7	14	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
Indiana	20	19	39	1	4	12	17	0	1	0	0	1
Iowa East	9	9	18	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	1
Iowa West	15	15	30	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas	14	14	28	1	1	3	5	0	0	0	0	0
Michigan	32	32	64	1	4	16	21	0	0	0	0	0
Mid-South	8	8	16	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Minnesota North	16	16	32	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Minnesota South	24	24	48	1	2	4	7	0	0	0	0	0
Missouri	28	28	56	1	8	10	19	0	0	0	1	1
Montana	4	4	8	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska, Northern	12	12	24	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska, Southern	12	11	23	1	1	3	5	0	1	0	0	1
North Dakota	6	6	12	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest	11	10	21	1	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	1
Ohio	14	14	28	1	1	5	7	0	0	0	1	1
Oklahoma	4	4	8	1	—	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
South Dakota	10	10	20	1	—	—	1	0	0	0	0	0
Southeastern	14	14	28	1	2	3	6	0	0	0	0	0
Southern	11	10	21	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	3
Texas	18	18	36	1	2	7	10	0	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin, North	18	18	36	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin, South	21	20	41	1	5	9	15	0	1	1	0	2
Alberta and British Columbia	7	7	14	1	1	—	2	0	0	0	0	0
Manitoba and Saskatchewan	6	6	12	1	—	—	1	1	1	0	0	2
Ontario	6	6	12	0	1	—	1	0	0	1	0	1
Argentina	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	3	3	6	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	4
Boards and Committees							193					8
General Officials							19					0
Boards of Control							21					1
Faculty Members							78					5
Overseas Missionaries							20					5
Totals	500	493	993	36	67	124	558	3	10	5	4	41
Youth Representatives			61									
Guests			896									

Comparative Figures

	1967	1969
Voting Delegates Present	875	993
Advisory Delegates Present	508	558
Total Delegates Present	1,383	1,551

CONVENTION FLOOR COMMITTEES

The Bylaws of the Synod say:

"All reports, overtures, proposals, petitions, and other matters submitted to the President of the Synod in accordance with the foregoing paragraphs shall as a rule be referred by the President of the Synod to convention committees appointed by him from among the accredited delegates and official representatives in order to expedite the transaction of business. The President shall notify such committee members of their appointment and of the time and place of their first meeting no later than 8 weeks before the convention of the

Synod. After due consideration of the matters referred to them, these committees shall report their findings and recommendations to the convention. If the President deems it advisable, he may convene any such committees prior to the opening of the convention. Every member of the Synod shall have the right to object to any appointment made to such committees. There shall be adequate lay representation on all committees."

In compliance with the regulations of the Synod the President appointed the following laymen, pastors, professors, and teachers to serve on convention committees.

Key to Abbreviations

C — Chairman	L — Laymen	Pr — Professors
P — Pastors	T — Teachers	
AB — Alberta and Brit. Col.	MdS — Mid-South	NI — Northern Illinois
Ar — Argentine	MnN — Minnesota North	NN — Northern Nebraska
At — Atlantic	MnS — Minnesota South	Nw — Northwest
Br — Brazil	Mo — Missouri	Oh — Ohio
CN — California and Nevada	Mt — Montana	Ok — Oklahoma
CI — Central Illinois	ND — North Dakota	On — Ontario
Co — Colorado	NW — North Wisconsin	SD — South Dakota
Ea — Eastern		SW — South Wisconsin
En — English		SE — Southeastern
FG — Florida and Georgia		So — Southern
In — Indiana		SC — Southern California
IE — Iowa East		SI — Southern Illinois
IW — Iowa West		SN — Southern Nebraska
Ks — Kansas		Tx — Texas
MS — Manitoba and Sask.		
Mt — Michigan		

Committee 1

MISSIONS

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Pr: M. Kramer (Ar), J. A. O. Preus (CI), O. Kruger (Ks), D. M. Meinke (SN)
L: P. Buerger (Ea), C. Hart, Jr. (FG), L. Schroeder (MS), E. C. Lake (Mc), L. Brabender (MdS), E. J. Rickman (NW), V. W. Lenz (Oh), N. Wenger (SD), M. Classen (SW), J. L. Hughes, Sr. (So), O. H. Frieling (Tx)

Committee 2

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L: C. L. Maurer (At), F. H. Rahn (CI), A. Tibbetts (MnN), J. A. Sievert (NW), R. Rodeck (NI), R. F. Bahr (SW), K. H. Coyner (SE)

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CHURCH RELATIONS

C: L. H. Goetz (NW)
P: G. Rode (AB), R. P. F. Ressimyer (At), H. H. Heuer (CN), A. W. Mueller (CI), L. W. Roehrs (Co), J. F. Panning (Ea), J. H. Tietjen (En), L. L. Behnken (FG), E. F. Kramer (IE), F. Kempfert (IW), L. H. Deffner (Ks), J. Goehner (Mc), F. F. Koehler (MS), L. Gallman (MnS), L. Tormoehlen (Mt), P. H. Eggold (NW), R. M. Hess (NI), A. R. Kretzmann (NI), O. E. Krohn (NN), P. G. Single (Oh), C. W. Knippa (Ok), V. A.

Bartelt (SW), H. W. Baxmann (SW), G. A. Loose (SE), R. P. Scheer (So), D. B. Joeckel (SC), A. A. Ledebuhr (SI)
T: P. W. Lange (In), E. Bunsold (Oh)
Pr: J. F. Stach (MnS), H. J. A. Bouman (Mo), M. L. Koehneke (NI), R. O. Reinisch (Nw), W. Th. Janzow (SN)
L: G. Frohnappfel (Mc), G. Schlegelmilch (MnN), I. O. Sorum (MnS), E. W. Piehl (Mo), J. H. Maxwell (ND), R. C. Hannenberg (NI), K. J. Jaech (Nw), E. A. Johnson (SD), B. Farmer (SW), H. Seyler (SN), H. L. Mumm (Tx)

Committee 4

SYNODICAL ADMINISTRATION

C: E. C. Rakow (In)
P: R. P. Brewer (CN), J. W. Meyer (CI), F. H. Ilten (IE), P. T. Heinicke (Mc), M. L. Reith (NW), W. W. Zielke (NI), J. Korcock (On)
T: E. Wunderlich (NI)
Pr: W. H. Rusch (Mc), R. E. Barnes (MnS), A. O. Fuerbringer (Mo), D. DeBlock (SW)
L: F. R. Ottman (At), E. H. Montag (Ea), M. W. Beckmann (En), G. VanGelder (IW), A. D. Merrell (Mc), D. E. Prevaillet (MdS), R. Holsten (Mo), H. T. Hooper (Tx)

Committee 5

CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

C: F. Niedner (NN)
P: A. C. Mack (En), G. C. Meilaender (In), H. M. Heidenreich (Mc), W. Adam (NI)
Pr: A. E. Meyer (At), C. A. Volz (Mo)
L: L. R. Scharf (At), F. M. Wyble (En), L. A. Brown, Sr. (Mc), W. A. Eggers (Mo), F. Froehlich (NW), A. E. Werk (SW)

Committee 6

HIGHER EDUCATION

C: E. C. Weber (Mc)
P: R. E. Koenig (At), E. J. Otto (CI), G. W. Degner (Ea), P. Florip (MnN), K. J. Siess (Mo), M. Frick (NI), A. Ziegler (Oh), L. A. Eberhard (SD), E. A. Krause (SW), R. Fink (SE), K. Fuerbringer (SC), H. Kuring (SI), H. T. Stelzer (SN)
T: S. J. Roth (Mc)
Pr: H. Wentzel (At), M. J. Neeb Sr. (In), E. C. Sieving (NI), W. Klammer (SN), E. Schneider (Ar)
L: T. Appelt (AB), A. L. Rabenhorst (CN), N. F. Oebker (En), W. P. Helmke (In), O. L. Prill (IE), C. E. Warsinski (Mc), G. L. Crippen (MnS), M. Bartelt (NI), C.

A. Erdman (Nw), C. L. Petrowsky (Ok), D. P. Warren (On), R. F. Walker (So), L. Holotik (Tx)

Committee 7

PARISH EDUCATION AND SERVICES

C: H. W. Niermann (SN)
P: R. C. Schulze (At), W. E. Holm (En), R. O. Lassanske (In), E. C. Peterson (Mc), H. C. Mueller (MnS), G. F. Wollenburg (Mt), J. Schultz (NW), D. J. Ondov (NN)
T: J. H. Bunge (Co), W. Rittmueller (Mc), R. D. Ladendorf (Nw), C. Dunk Sr. (Tx)
Pr: M. L. Flor (Br.), W. A. Poehler (MnS), W. Martin (NI), J. L. Middendorf (SN)
L: J. A. Burkhardt (Ea), O. Hagen (IE), W. P. Conant (Mo), D. F. Heckler (Oh), H. C. Senkbeil (SW), G. P. Burkhardt (SE), W. S. Christman (SC)

Committee 8

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

C: H. F. Neunaber (SI)
P: K. J. Stumpf (At), D. E. Cordes (Mc), R. G. Kapfer (Mc), H. C. Scherer (Mo), J. Koehler (Oh), R. Z. Meyer (SC), H. W. Jacobsmeier (Tx)
T: R. L. Wolf (MnS)
Pr: W. E. Barnett (CN), E. P. Weber (Nw)
L: P. M. Goebel (CN), W. W. Karloski (CI), T. Folkerts (En), E. A. Banke (MnS), E. Mertz (Mo), J. Buller (NN), A. Batson (Ok)

Committee 9

SOCIAL ACTION AND WELFARE

C: M. C. Poch (SE)
P: J. W. Leininger (At), E. Reimnitz (Br), W. P. Lottes (Ea), H. N. Huxhold (En), M. J. Haerther (IW), L. W. Koehler (MS), R. T. Brendel (Mc), A. H. Strege (Mo), R. Nack (NW), E. H. Happel (NI)
Pr: E. F. Eggold (CN), W. G. Boss (In)
L: E. Graham Jr. (FG), B. L. Menser (In), H. H. Dohl (Ks), M. Scheidt (Mc), E. W. Clausen (MnS), S. Randle (Mo), V. M. Kolba (NI), P. R. Steube (Nw), W. E. Dammeyer (SC)

Committee 10

COMMUNICATIONS

C: A. Bernthal (FG)
P: J. A. Kavasch (At), L. Rittmann (En), A. Pero (Mc), P. E. Bittner (MnN), E. H. Eifert (MnS), J. W. Sippola (NW), J. E.

Lutze (NI), D. A. Preisinger (Nw), G. F. Lobien (SW), E. Homrighausen (So)
Pr: J. W. Klotz (In), R. C. Beisel (Ks)
L: E. E. Koepke (Co), K. R. Rathert (Mc), H. A. Schneider (Tx)

Committee 11**SPECIAL MINISTRIES
AND SUNDRY MATTERS**

C: H. R. Frincke (Ea)
P: E. L. Krauss (Mc), B. W. Johnson (MnS), D. Schlie (Mo), E. J. Scheibert (NI), K. A. Tubesing (SW)
T: R. L. Wenz (En)
Pr: R. A. Frantz (AB)
L: R. J. B. Shaw (At), W. C. Gunther (In), W. K. Weidler (IW), A. Natzke (NW)

Committee 12**STEWARDSHIP, FINANCE
RETIREMENT AND BENEFITS**

C: E. Nieting (IW)
P: J. P. Uhlig (CN), Lewis C. Niemoeller (CI), R. Biel (Co), E. A. Meyer (In), R. P.

Malotky (MnN), H. L. Bussman (MnS), E. Rottmann (Mo), A. E. Behrend (Ok), E. H. Kroening (SD), P. A. Juergensen (SE), W. L. Duerr (SC)

T: W. Kleinschmidt (NW)

Pr: L. Baacke (Mo)

L: J. F. Schwaber (At), W. H. Bohn (En), F. B. Riechmann (In), G. D. Lanes (IE), E. Schepmann (Ks), G. A. Cole (Mc), W. A. Proft (MnS), E. G. Koriath (NI), T. H. Hill (NN), R. W. LaValley (Nw), D. Goertz (On), R. C. Toebe (SW), T. C. Butz (SC), M. R. Brueckner (SI), A. Holle (SN), E. Gast (Tx)

Committee 13**NOMINATIONS**

C: W. W. Kayser (Mc)

P: H. M. Hiller (Co), G. H. Perlich (IE), E. L. Krentz (Mc), A. E. Thiem (ND), T. L. Ristine (On), K. L. Barth (SW), W. W. Koenig (SN)

T: M. H. Wegehaupt (CI), R. Garmatz (Mo), D. Hingst (Mo)

L: W. D. Grauer (IW), R. W. Wendell (On), G. R. Heine (SN), G. Melde (Tx)

Committee 14**ELECTIONS**

C: Arlen Bruns (Ks)

P: D. Graesser (At), R. E. Tonn (Oh), E. G. Neunaber (Tx)

L: J. E. Snider (Mc), W. Burak (MnN), A. P. Brackebusch (Mt), H. G. Wandel (NN)

Committee 15**REGISTRATION**

C: M. W. Lieske (MnS)

P: R. H. Rose (En), E. J. Fritze (Mo), W. G. Weiss (Nw), R. W. Helberg (Tx)

T: C. L. Raguse (Ks), M. Dehning (NN)

L: E. Kelch (At), E. Pflueger (SC)

Committee 16**WORK PROGRAM REVIEW**

C: C. A. Heckmann (Tx)

P: C. H. Mehl (Mo), A. A. Schmidt (SC)

T: D. O. Toven (At)

Pr: P. A. Zimmerman (Mc)

L: H. F. Groth (En), O. Schmid (IE), W. A. Christopher (NI), D. L. Druckrey (SW)

MINUTES OF THE CONVENTION

Opening Service

The opening service of the 48th regular convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod was held on Friday, July 11, 1969, beginning at 7:30 p. m., in the Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, Colo. Rev. Paul W. Streufert, D.D., delivered the sermon on the basis of Hebrews 11:8-10. Rev. Gerhard H. Munding, Ph.D., was the officiant; Rev. Waldemar E. Meyer, the lector. Mr. Paul Manz, LL.D., was the organist; Mr. Gerhard Schroth led the singers of the choirs of the Lutheran churches of Denver.

After the close of the service Rev. Oliver R. Harms, D.D., President of the Synod, in accordance with its *Handbook*, gave a brief orientation talk chiefly to the delegates.

Session 1

July 12, Morning

Opening of Convention

A presession Communion service began at 7:15 on Saturday morning, July 12, 1969, with Rev. W. Harry Krieger, D.D., as officiant, assisted by eight pastors. Rev. George W. Wittmer, D.D., was the leader for the opening devotion, at which President Harms gave the address on the basis of Rom. 1:16-17.

Rev. August R. Suelflow, D.D., director of Concordia Historical Institute, turned over the gavel first used in 1911 at the synodical convention to the President for use in the opening and closing sessions of this convention.

Rev. M. W. Lieske, chairman of the Registration Committee (15), reported that 456 voting pastors and 417 voting laymen had registered, a total of 873 voting members present, easily a quorum. Thereupon President Harms declared the synodical convention opened in the name of the triune God.

President's Report

President Harms now gave the President's Report. This report is printed in full in the PROCEEDINGS of this convention. In his report he paid tribute to the late Rev. Dr. John W. Behnken, Honorary President of the Synod, and the hearers bowed their heads in tribute to him. Dr. Harms called for a study leading to a reorganization of the administrative structure of the Synod. He paid special attention to the implementation of New York convention Resolution 3-23 re fellowship with The American Lutheran Church and the recommendation of the Council of Presidents to the present convention. He told about relations with other church bodies and the Lutheran Council in the United States of America. He committed the guidance of the convention to the Lord. A standing ovation greeted him at the close of the report.

Greetings

Dr. Gerhard H. Munding presented Mr. Walter Koch, who in turn presented the Honorable Governor

of the State of Colorado, John A. Love. His Excellency addressed the convention briefly. Dr. Munding also presented the President of the Colorado District, Rev. Waldemar E. Meyer. Pastor Meyer welcomed the convention on behalf of the District and gave due recognition to the Convention Arrangements Committee.

President Harms introduced Rev. Lawrence B. Meyer, D.D., former synodical Planning Counselor, Rev. Herman Harms, D.D., a former Vice-President of the Synod, and Rev. Walter C. Birkner, D.D., past Secretary of the Synod.

Elections

Dr. Harms gave the floor to the Committee on Elections. A question of privilege led to the response that Robert's Rules of Order would be the parliamentary rules for the convention. A motion carried that the program for today as printed in *Today's Business* be adopted and followed as closely as possible.

Rev. Arlen Bruns, chairman of the Committee on Elections (14), explained the procedures for the elections. The nominating ballot for President of the Synod was held.

Greetings

During the balloting President W. Th. Janzow of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., presented two young ladies who are students at the school: Miss Jane Briggemann, Miss Nebraska of 1969; Miss Lois Koth, Miss Iowa of 1969. They gave gifts to President Harms.

Mr. Walter Koch presented Mr. Richard L. Shannon. As deputy and Acting Mayor of the City and County of Denver, he brought the greetings of the ill Mayor, Mr. W. H. McNichols Jr.

Work Program Review

Rev. C. A. Heckmann, chairman of the Work Program Review Committee (16), explained the functions of this committee. A meeting of the committee will be held Thursday evening. Every addition to the financial commitments should be considered in the light of the willingness to implement the commitments.

Nominations

Mr. Walter W. Kayser, chairman of the Board for Convention Nominations (13), presented the report of this board, *Workbook*, pp. 482-486. The following additions and corrections were made: Board of Directors, add Gerhardt E. Nitz; Board for Missions, read W. A. Kamrath, not William Kamrath; Board for Young People's Work, delete Norman E. Walter, add Victor A. Bartelt; Board of Appeals, delete Armin W. Hesse, add Enno Gahl; Board of Control, Austin, delete Louis L. Pabor, add Elmo Miertschin; Board of Control, Bronxville, add George H. Mueller; Board of Control, Winfield, Eugene C. Straub, change of address; for the schools in South America delete the designations "Slate 1" and "Slate 2."

Resolved to accept the report of the Board for Convention Nominations (*Workbook*, Report 13-01, and *TB*, pp. 109—111).

Nominations from the Floor

The following candidates were nominated from the floor: Board of Directors: William D. Carter, Walter K. Koch, Franklin Schmidt, William Sornborger; Board for Missions: Harold Ives, Richard Jesse, Paul Leacraft, Roy Saylor, David A. Preisinger; Board of Parish Education: B. H. Arkebauer, Justus P. Kretzmann; Board for Young People's Work: Harold Jacobsmeyer, Eldor Kaiser; Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church: Robert F. Kamphoefner, C. A. Swanson, Roy A. Suelflow; Board of Appeals: Garry Crippen; Board for Convention Nominations: Harlan J. Hartner; Board of Directors, Concordia Publishing House: Walter C. Maas, John Roetge; Board of Control, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis: Hyman Firehammer, Arthur F. Samuel, Charles Burmeister; Board of Control, Fort Wayne: Paul W. Lange; Board of Control, River Forest: Walter O. Forster, Donald Bessert; Board of Control, Austin: Albert F. Jesse; Board of Control, Bronxville: August F. Brustadt, Robert Moellering; Board of Control, Milwaukee: George Mohr; Board of Control, Oakland: Arlo M. Mueller; Board of Control, Portland: A. A. Sangler, Robert Merz.

A point of order was clarified by the chair's statement that members of the Board for Convention Nominations may be renominated by the other members of the board.

The question of the enlargement of the Board of Control of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, was ordered. This can be done by the election of these members by the convention.

A complaint about the noise because of the demonstration in the lobby was answered by the chair that the committee was trying to keep it under control.

Resolved to close the nominations.

Appointments

The chairman announced the following appointments. To assist the chair: W. G. Polack and William C. Naatz.

Official reporters: the editors of the *Lutheran Witness*, the *Lutheran Witness Reporter*, and *Der Lutheraner*.

Assistant Secretary: Carl S. Meyer.

Committee to consider late overtures: Robert Helberg, Oliver Luecke, Arnold Loose.

Parliamentarian: William vonSpreckelsen.

Assistants to the chair: Roland Wiederaenders, Arnold Wessler, Walter F. Wolbrecht.

Announcements

President Harms announced that any unusual items or confrontations will be referred to the proper committees. Opportunities for statements may be given at the end of a session.

He also stated that the matter of Holy Communion was very serious. The Lutheran Church has always

adhered to the Galesburg Rule: "Lutheran altars for Lutherans only." He read the statement of the Lutheran Action Committee which invited other Christians to share in open Communion for the rest of the convention. He asked the celebrants to observe the practice of the church.

Today's Business was not ready for the morning session because of difficulties.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. W. F. Wolbrecht, Executive Director, in his report called attention to serious breaches in the democratic processes and irregular procedures according to the Constitution and usages of the Synod. He asked that the business of the church be carried out properly. A standing ovation followed his address.

Dr. George Wittmer offered the closing prayer.

Session 2

July 12, Afternoon

Opening

The opening prayer was made by Dr. Walter K. Koch.

Statement

Dr. J. A. O. Preus received permission to address the convention. He disavowed actions taken without his knowledge, stating that the issue was not one of personalities. He declared that he deplored politicking and pleaded that the delegates demonstrate their love toward one another and toward the Lord. He received a standing ovation.

Constitutional Matters

Chairman F. Niedner reported for Committee 5 on Constitutional Matters. The convention approved the applications of the four congregations: Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Flint, Michigan (Mich.), Christ the King Lutheran Church, Sharonville, Ohio (Ohio), King of Kings Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, Missouri (Mo.), Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Chesterfield Twp., Macomb County, Michigan (Mich.) (*TB* 25, 5-01).

It granted young guests from the Districts and colleges and seminaries speaking privileges at the invitation of the floor committees and the discretion of the chair (*TB* 25—26, 5-02). It concurred in the recommendation that the Committee on Nominations have a concern for nominating younger persons to synodical boards (*TB* 26, 5-03). It amended Bylaw 2.125 (and 3.33) to require a majority vote also in elections (*TB* 27, 5-04). It approved several District/congregation realignments (*TB* 31—33, 5-08, 5-09, 5-10, and 5-11).

It declined Overture 5-32, which would have required annual subscription to the Constitution and Installation Pledge (*TB* 28, 5-05).

It declined the overture to divide the Synod into two bodies (*TB* 28, 5-06).

Missions

The chairman of the Committee on Missions, Waldemar E. Meyer, presented Dr. William H. Kohn,

Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions. Dr. Kohn stressed that we are sent into the world with the Gospel of reconciliation and that this world is a world that is growing larger.

Dr. Alfred O. Fuerbringer presented the "Christus vivit" award of Concordia Seminary to Mr. Alfred E. Jordan, chairman of the Board for Missions.

The resolution noting five anniversaries of mission fields and consecrated ministers was amended to the effect that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mrs. Franz Mohn, the daughters of missionary Theodore Naether, and Mrs. Augustus Reinke (TB 34—35, 1-03).

Elections

Chairman Bruns reported that 24 names had been placed in nomination for President. The five highest were, in alphabetical order: Victor Behnken, Oliver R. Harms, Theodore F. Nickel, J. A. O. Preus, E. C. Weber. He instructed the delegates about voting procedures on this second ballot.

Missions

The report of the Committee on Missions was resumed. The convention resolved that the Board for Missions consult with the Stewardship Board to identify and develop specific mission projects (TB 37, 1-06). It commended Project Timothy and resolved to continue the project after amending the resolution to include seminarians (TB 33, 1-01). It expressed confidence in the mission personnel of the Synod (TB 35, 1-04). The convention did not act on the resolution to continue cooperation in overseas mission, because the time was up (TB 36).

Presentation to Dr. Harms

Vice-President Wiederaenders called on Rev. Waldemar E. Meyer who presented a silver tray to Dr. Oliver R. Harms on behalf of the Colorado District.

Church Relations

Chairman Lloyd Goetz brought the report of the Committee on Church Relations (3). The convention accepted a resolution to approve the agreement of the merger between the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod unanimously with a rising vote of thanks (TB 40, 3-01). Dr. John Kovacs was recognized.

The Synod resolved to continue efforts to strengthen relations with sister churches (TB 40, 3-02).

Dr. Max Lohe, President of the Lutheran Church of Australia, was presented. He delivered a stirring message of goodwill. The convention requested that his address be made available. Dr. Lohe received a standing ovation.

The resolution asking for discussions to establish altar and pulpit fellowship with the Lutheran Church of Australia was adopted (TB 41, 3-03).

The Synod declined to take action on joining the World Council of Churches at this time, because the Commission on Theology and Church Relations has not had time to study this matter (TB 41—42, 3-04).

Res. 3-05 (TB 42) on discussions with the Lutheran Church in America was referred back to Committee 3 for clarification of the expression "toward finding the consensus necessary."

The Synod requested the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to arrange for a study of the National Council of Churches in the United States of America (TB 42—43, 3-06). It requested this same commission to prepare guidelines for participation in local councils (TB 43, 3-07).

Special Ministries and Sundry Matters

Rev. Herman R. Frincke presented the report of Committee 11. He asked Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann to address the convention. Dr. Hoffmann expressed thanks for the support given to the Lutheran Hour and told of its being broadcast in 41 languages on more than 1,500 stations. The Lutheran Hour has brought many to a knowledge of salvation. Dr. Hoffmann likewise received a standing ovation from the convention.

The convention expressed its gratitude to God for the Lutheran Hour and promised continued support (TB 50—51, 11-11).

It commended the work of the Bethesda Lutheran Home and encouraged support of its program, accepting its report with gratitude (TB 47—48, 11-07).

Chairman Frincke presented Dr. Albert G. Huegli, president of Valparaiso University. Dr. Huegli reported on Valparaiso University and asked for continued support.

Elections

There was no majority for President on the second ballot, and the chairman of the committee announced that it hoped to have a ballot before the close of the afternoon session.

Special Ministries and Sundry Matters

The convention encouraged Valparaiso University to maintain its distinctive Christian character, thanking it and commending its report (TB 44—45, 11-02). It urged its congregations to support the work of the American Bible Society (TB 45, 11-03). Likewise it received the report of the Commission on Architecture and encouraged congregations to avail themselves of the services of this commission (TB 46, 11-05). It declined the overture dealing with pastors owning their own homes (TB 46, 11-04). It asked that groups wishing to invite future conventions submit their proposals to the Council of Presidents for recommendation to a convention (TB 49, 11-09).

Chairman Frincke presented Rev. Arne Kristo, executive director of the Lutheran Deaconess Association, who in turn presented eight deaconesses. The convention encouraged congregations to observe the 50th anniversary of the Lutheran Deaconess Association (TB 44, 11-01).

Communications

Dr. August Bernthal presented the report of Com-

mittee 10. The Synod received the report of the Commission on Church Literature with gratitude (TB 52, 10-01). It accepted the report of Concordia Publishing House with thanks and expressed gratitude to God for the 100 years of service of the publishing house (TB 52, 10-02). Likewise it received the report of the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals with thanks and encouraged its members to subscribe to the periodicals (TB 53, 10-03). Dr. Bernthal presented Dr. Martin Neeb Jr., executive secretary of the Lutheran Television Productions Board. Dr. Neeb stressed the unparalleled opportunities for presenting the Gospel to an electronic society which stresses the primacy of the visual.

The convention expressed its appreciation to the Lutheran Laymen's League for its support of the television program and resolved by amendment to send a copy of the resolution to the headquarters of the Lutheran Laymen's League (TB 53-54, 10-04). It changed the name of the Lutheran Television Productions Board to Board for Lutheran Television (TB 54, 10-05).

It expressed its thanks to more than 400 TV stations for carrying Lutheran television programs (TB 54-55, 10-06) and allowed the presentation of awards of appreciation and recognition (TB 55, 10-07).

The joint sponsorship of television programs by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the Lutheran Laymen's League will be continued by formal resolution (TB 56, 10-08). Dr. Eugene Bertermann, executive secretary of the Lutheran Laymen's League, addressed the convention and thanked the Synod for cosponsoring the television programs.

The resolution to amend *Handbook* Section 12.27 as submitted was amended to read "four additional members shall be appointed" instead of "four members appointed." Likewise the provision that the board shall be responsible for making a detailed report to the Synod was amended by the addition of the words "and to the Lutheran Laymen's League." The resolution as amended was adopted (TB 56-58, 10-09).

Elections

The Committee on Elections announced that the four names on the third ballot for President of the Synod are: Victor Behnken, Oliver R. Harms, Theodore F. Nickel, J. A. O. Preus. The convention balloted on these nominees.

Communications

The Synod received the report of the Board for Public Relations with thanks (TB 58, 10-10). It also received the report regarding *Advance* magazine and expressed its appreciation for the services rendered to the church by this medium (TB 59, 10-11).

Lutheran Council in the United States of America

Dr. C. Thomas Spitz, executive secretary of the Lutheran Council in the United States of America, addressed the convention. He told of the services of the various divisions of the Lutheran Council.

Closing

After various announcements Dr. Walter K. Koch gave the closing prayer of this session.

Session 3

July 12, Evening

Opening

The opening prayer was spoken by Dr. W. Harry Krieger.

The minutes of the first session were approved.

The question was raised whether anyone not having an opportunity to vote on the last ballot of the presidential election might contest the ballot. The chair replied that voting on the last ballot was concluded and there was no recourse after the election was closed.

Elections

The chairman of the Committee on Elections reported that 939 votes were cast on the third ballot for President. The Reverend Dr. J. A. O. Preus received the majority. Several questions were raised immediately, but the chair ruled them out of order. He invited the President-elect to come forward, who received a standing ovation. He said that he was overwhelmed by the election, but the election is not tantamount to acceptance. He wanted time to think it over and to confer with individuals and boards. He lauded Dr. Harms.

Dr. Harms made a statement expressing his gratitude for having the opportunity to serve the Synod since 1962. Many serious matters have come up during that time, he stated, but he had no regrets for the important actions he took. He stands by the recommendation on fellowship. He has no fear but that the Synod will move forward and not divide into partisan factions. The Synod should close its ranks after the convention and bring the strong witness of the church. "The Lord bless you all and our new President," he concluded. The Synod accepted his churchmanship by a standing ovation.

A motion to suspend Robert's Rules of Order in this instance in order to make the election unanimous was lost.

The nominating ballots for the First Vice-President were distributed.

Theological Matters

Dr. Victor L. Behnken reported for Committee 2. The Synod received various documents of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations: "Answers to Questions Raised Regarding the Document *A Lutheran Stance Toward Contemporary Biblical Studies*" (TB 68, 2-04), "A Response to 'Questions on The Witness of Jesus and Old Testament Authorship'" (TB 69, 2-05), and "Guidelines for Crucial Issues in Christian Citizenship" (TB 72, 2-10). It resolved to accept the "Revised Rules of Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship" (TB 72, 2-09).

It commended the Exchange Study Committee and

asked the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to develop and expand the Exchange Study Program (TB 73, 2-11).

Stewardship and Finance; Retirement and Benefits

Rev. Ellis Nieting presented the report of Committee 12. The Synod accepted the report of the Treasurer and expressed appreciation for the work of the staff of the Treasurer's office and especially for the work of Dr. Milton Carpenter (TB 82-83, 12-02). It accepted financial exhibits and schedules and expressed thanks for the Uniform Accounting System (TB 83, 12-03).

Rev. A. Lorenz Grumm, Executive Secretary of Stewardship, was presented to the convention. He addressed the convention briefly. Thereupon the Synod accepted the report of the Board of Stewardship, Mission Education, and Promotion with gratitude for the work of the staff (TB 84, 12-04).

The recommendation of the committee to launch a "Soul-Saving-Seventies" effort was debated at some length. The phrase "Soul-Saving-Seventies" was changed to "Soul-Winning-Seventies" with the consent of the committee. Resolution 12-05 (TB 84-85) was recommitted.

Higher Education

Dr. E. C. Weber, chairman of Committee 6, gave the report of the committee. The Synod commended the staff of the Board for Higher Education (TB 98, 6-01). It expressed its appreciation for donors of special gifts to Concordia College, Portland (TB 98, 6-02), Concordia College, St. Paul (TB 99, 6-03), and Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr. (TB 99, 6-04).

A resolution to convey discretionary authority to consolidate colleges to several boards of the Synod (TB 100, 6-05) brought about considerable discussion, and time ran out before action was taken.

Question of Privilege

A delegate on a question of privilege made a motion that open campaigning be allowed and that public information be given about candidates. A motion to extend the time of this session was lost.

Announcements

Secretary Mueller announced that Mayor Lindsay of New York had sent a greeting and an invitation to the Synod to hold a future convention in New York. Greetings were also received from the Girl Scouts of America.

Closing

Dr. W. Harry Krieger held the closing devotion, basing his message on Acts 20:32.

Session 4

July 14, Morning

Opening

The pre-session choral Eucharist was held with Rev. H. F. Lindemann as officiant; he was assisted by seven fellow clergymen. The opening devotion at 8:30 a. m.

was led by the Rev. Dr. Theo. F. Nickel. He based his message on Jeremiah 15:16 with the theme "Joy in the Word."

The convention was called to order by President Harms. The minutes for the second and third sessions were approved.

Essay

Dr. Harms introduced the Rev. Prof. Richard Caemmerer, the essayist for the convention. Dr. Caemmerer said that the Word that builds the church is Jesus Christ. The Word is inspired; it is the Word of God, God's own action through Christ Jesus. He made the world through it. The Word became flesh. The church must learn what the Bible has to say about Jesus, for it makes men wise unto salvation. As the people of God who are witnesses of the Word, it affirms that Jesus is God's Word to the world.

Elections and Procedures

Chairman Bruns of the Committee on Elections reported that 906 votes were cast on the nominating ballot for First Vice-President of the Synod; 30 of these were void. The 876 ballots were divided among 62 nominees. The first five men were Victor L. Behnken, Theo. F. Nickel, Paul Streufert, E. C. Weber, Roland Wiederanders.

In reply to a question the chairman of the committee stated that the Board for Higher Education and its advisory members were invited to the meeting of the electoral college for Boards of Control.

In reply to another question the chairman stated that biographical sketches of the vice-presidential candidates could not be given.

Dr. Harms introduced Dr. E. J. Friedrich.

The time assigned to Committee 12 on the agenda will have to be made up some other time.

The chairman stated that the motion made at the end of Session 3 under a question of personal privilege is ruled out of order and that this matter is presented to Committee 4.

On a question of privilege it was moved and then resolved that the program of each session be adopted by the assembly.

Dr. J. A. O. Preus

The President-elect, the Rev. Dr. J. A. O. Preus, was presented by President Harms for a statement. Dr. Preus stated that he believes that God has called him to the office of President of the Synod and that he has no choice but to accept and asked God to give him strength to carry out his responsibilities.

Young People's Work

Rev. H. F. Neunaber presented the report of Committee 8. He introduced Mr. Ben Eggers, Executive Secretary of the Board for Young People's Work, Rev. Martin Steyer, and Mr. Dean Dammann.

Six young people, District representatives, then made individual presentations of the report of young people's work. They were: Margaret Fuchssteiner, Northern

Illinois District; Zack Ruhl, Kansas District; Rich Lange, Ohio District; Dianne Hammond, Central Illinois District; Wendy Drefke, California and Nevada District; Gwen Hodge, Missouri District.

Parish Education and Services

Chairman H. W. Niermann of Committee 7 presented Dr. Justus P. Kretzmann, who spoke to the assembly and then carried on a dialog with Dr. Arthur L. Miller and Dr. A. H. Jahsmann that stressed the fundamental character of parish education and the need for the program. During the presentation a "demonstration" with banners made up of the seven affirmations regarding Christian education of the New York convention was on stage.

The convention asserted that Christian education is essential to the life of the church, the fundamental activity of the church in mission, and the basic means for church renewal (TB 139, 7-01).

Parish renewal through educational materials was recommended, and Boards of Parish Education were encouraged to assist congregations in these efforts (TB 139-140, 7-02).

Parliamentary Question

A delegate asked that the results of the tabulation of the elections be released as filed with the Secretary. The chairman stated that the practice was discontinued because releasing the results might put "undue influence" on the delegates. It was resolved that the convention follow the suggestion of the chairman. The motion that Secretary release the tabulation was lost.

Church Relations

The chairman of Committee 3, Rev. L. H. Goetz, continued the report of this committee. He corrected a reference on page 136 of *Today's Business*: "Appendix III (CW, p. 63)" should be substituted for "Appendix A (CW, pp. 63-64)."

The convention resolved that a committee should be appointed by the President of the Synod to review the structure and functions of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations and report to the 1971 convention. The committee stated that the intent was that pastors are to be included in this review committee (TB 136, 3-08).

The convention resolved that the responsibility for initiating discussions on fellowship belongs to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations under the direction of the Synod's President (TB 136-137, 3-09). An amendment to insert "and practice" was lost.

The convention declined overtures asking the Synod not to work with Reformed bodies and the Roman Catholic Church "in sacred matters," because distinctions between "sacred" and "secular" permit of various interpretations (TB 137, 3-10).

Resolution 3-11 (TB 137-138) was read but not discussed.

American Bible Society

Dr. Norman Temme of the American Bible Society addressed the convention relative to the purposes and

work of this society (see TB 184). He introduced Mlle. Annie Vallotton, the artist who illustrated the book *Good News for Modern Man*. She yodeled for the convention and answered questions addressed to her by Dr. Temme.

Announcements

Among other announcements Mr. William Ellis of the Lutheran Human Relations Association invited individuals to come to the "unlunch" at 12:15 p.m. today.

Closing Prayer

Dr. Theo. F. Nickel gave the closing prayer and benediction.

Session 5

July 14, Afternoon

Opening

Rev. Albert Pero Jr. gave the opening prayer.

Elections

Chairman Arlen Bruns of the Committee on Elections announced that the following names would appear on the second ballot for First Vice-President of the Synod: Victor L. Behnken, Theodore F. Nickel, E. C. Weber, Roland Wiederaenders.

A motion was made that the President appoint a committee to investigate the question of politicking and electioneering. The chairman said that a committee will come in with a report on this matter and he did not want a vote on the question at this time. He pleaded that electioneering cease immediately. The assembly by rising applause concurred with the chair. However, it was resolved that the motion be postponed indefinitely.

Young People's Work

The convention voted to change the composition of the Board for Young People's Work by amending *Handbook* 7.71 (TB 167, 8-01).

Minutes

The minutes for the fourth session were approved.

Constitutional Matters

Chairman F. Niedner reported for Committee 5.

The convention made changes in *Handbook* Bylaws 2.139 to and including 2.153 and 2.39 for the Board for Convention Nominations and changed the name to "Committee for Convention Nominations" (TB 29-31, 5-07). Several amendments were lost. However, an amendment to eliminate "accompanied by supporting information" in 2.141 b was passed, and "qualifications of each candidate suggested are to be submitted together with the names" was added. The committee inserted "written" into "prior consent" and added "this document and" in 2.145 a before the resolution was adopted.

The convention declined overtures asking for changes in convention arrangements (TB 151, 5-12). It also declined an overture dealing with seconding and asked the Board for Missions to prepare guidelines on seconding (TB 153, 5-14). It declined the overture to move toward discontinuation of the English District and encouraged English District congregations to join new

Districts when geographical Districts are made (TB 153—154, 5-15).

Observers of Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and Evangelical Lutheran Synod

President Harms recognized the observers of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod: President Oscar J. Naumann, Professor Oscar J. Siegler, Rev. E. Arnold Sitz, and Prof. Carl J. Lawrenz. He also recognized the observers of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod: Rev. Juul B. Madson and Rev. T. N. Teigen.

Theological Matters

The chairman of Committee 2, Dr. Victor Behnken, announced that Resolution 2-22 (TB 81) has already been adopted in a previous resolution (TB 72, 2-09).

The Synod resolved that arrangements be made for the inclusion of laymen in theological conferences (TB 75, 2-14) and asked the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to coordinate several studies on ordination and the church's various ministries (TB 75—76, 2-15).

After considerable discussion it declined the overture seeking to restore the word "true" in the Catechism on the Sacrament of the Altar (TB 78—79, 2-18).

It accepted the reports of the Commission on Worship (TB 79—80, 2-19). It was explained that this resolution accepted the reports of the commission, not the *Worship Supplement*.

The Synod declined the overture to produce a substitute for the document "Christian Discipline in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod" (TB 80, 2-20). By resolution it shared concerns on questions of Biblical hermeneutics and requested the concerned congregation to continue its study (TB 74, 2-13).

It commended the position paper of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations on "Death, Resurrection, and Immortality" and referred it to the 1971 convention for action (TB 81, 2-21).

Stewardship and Finance; Retirement and Benefits

Chairman E. Nieting presented the report of Committee 12.

The convention adopted a commendation for Dr. John E. Herrmann with a rising vote and applause. Dr. Harms read and presented the citation to Dr. Herrmann, who expressed his thanks (TB 82, 12-01).

The convention accepted the report of the Board of Trustees for Trust Funds (TB 89, 12-09) and the report of the Board of Pensions and Support, commended the Work Committee, making it a regular feature of this board, and asked that it review some designated features of the Pension Plan (TB 89—90, 12-10). It accepted the report of the Board of Managers for Concordia Welfare Plan, Concordia Survivor Plan, and Concordia Retirement Plan (TB 90—91, 12-11). The overture to raise the minimum monthly pension was declined after a motion to recommit was lost (TB 91—93, 12-12).

Elections

Chairman Bruns of the Committee on Elections announced that the candidates for the third ballot for

First Vice-President are: Theodore Nickel, E. C. Weber, Roland Wiederaenders.

Stewardship and Finance; Retirement and Benefits

The convention declined the overtures to permit withdrawal of Pension Plan contributions and pension retirement accumulations (TB 93, 12-13) and made no changes for additional vesting in the Retirement and Pension Plans (TB 94, 12-14). Resolution 12-15 (TB 95) dealing with changes in the scope of participation in these plans could not be acted on.

Dr. Fredrik A. Schiotz

President Harms introduced the Reverend Dr. Fredrik A. Schiotz, president of The American Lutheran Church and of the Lutheran World Federation. Dr. Schiotz thanked the convention for the hearty welcome it gave him and other evidences of goodwill toward The American Lutheran Church. He spoke in personal terms of his ministry. He pointed out that The American Lutheran Church has adopted the "Joint Statement and Declaration" and disclaimed allegations of hypocrisy in The American Lutheran Church in respect to the meaning of "inerrant." He reported that 18 district conventions of The American Lutheran Church have ratified the Omaha resolution of 1968 regarding fellowship with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod by 94.7% of all ballots. He said: "If you accept our proffered hand, we will regard it as God's gift to our people. If you do not find it in your hearts to do that, many of our people will ask, 'Is God's Spirit pointing us in new directions?'" He also said, "May the Lord turn His face towards you." On behalf of The American Lutheran Church he extended congratulations to Dr. Preus as the newly elected President of the Synod and invoked the blessing of God's Spirit that He might give Dr. Preus a large measure of the spirit of faithfulness, integrity, openness, and persevering Christian kindness which Dr. Harms displayed. A standing ovation with sustained applause greeted Dr. Schiotz at the conclusion of his address.

Later on the chair allowed a question of Dr. Schiotz, who had agreed to answer it. A delegate asked: "Do you believe that The American Lutheran Church can wait for two or four more years for the Missouri Synod decision on fellowship in view of the concerns within the Synod?" Dr. Schiotz replied that this was an exceedingly difficult question, that any church body must make decisions being fully persuaded. He repeated his statement that many within The American Lutheran Church might regard the refusal of the fellowship resolution by the Missouri Synod as a directive to The American Lutheran Church to look for new directions. Many within his synod are impatient, he stated; he hoped that his answer would not be misunderstood.

Social Action and Welfare

Dr. Martin C. Poch, chairman of Committee 9, presented Rev. Harold Huxhold, who read "A Statement of Principle on Social Action" (TB 162—165, 9-09).

The Synod reaffirmed Resolutions 9-08, 9-10, 9-12, 9-13, 9-15, and 2-29 of the New York convention in 1967,



invited study of the doctrine of the two kingdoms, and recognized the complexity of some social issues (TB 165, 9-09).

Elections

Chairman Bruns of the Committee on Elections announced that out of 936 ballots no nominee for First Vice-President of the Synod had received a majority. The fourth ballot voted on the two highest nominees, E. C. Weber and Roland Wiederaenders.

Social Action and Welfare

The Synod commended Dr. Werner Kuntz on his retirement as Executive Secretary of the Board of World Relief with a rising vote of thanks (TB 157, 9-01). Dr. Kuntz responded briefly.

Synodical Administration

The chairman of Committee 4, Dr. E. C. Rakow, presented Mr. Paul Schedler, who made a presentation of a medal to Dr. Oliver R. Harms on behalf of First Lutheran Church in San Diego and the Lutheran clergy in California.

The Synod accepted the report of the First Vice-President (TB 119, 4-01) and Sections I, II, III of the report of the Board of Directors (TB 119, 4-02). It established general principles for formation or realignments of Districts (TB 120, 4-03) and made additions to 3.03 of the Bylaws of the *Handbook* regarding these matters (TB 121, 4-04).

It adopted the report of the Board of Directors that the synodical headquarters be retained in St. Louis and encouraged the purchase of property for this purpose (TB 127, 4-14).

It declined the overture calling for a review committee of the doctrinal content of proposed convention resolutions (TB 122, 4-05).

It retained the Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded and attached it to the Division of Parish Education and Services (TB 130—131, 4-20).

Elections

Chairman Bruns announced that Dr. Roland Wiederaenders was reelected as First Vice-President of the Synod. A standing ovation greeted the announcement.

Announcements

Various announcements were made regarding committee meetings and open hearings.

Concluding Devotion

The concluding devotion was held by Rev. Albert Pero Jr., assisted by Mr. Sterling Belcher and the Mount Calvary Lutheran Children's Choir.

Session 6

July 15, Morning

Opening

Rev. H. F. Lindemann and seven assisting pastors officiated at the presession Communion service at 7:45 a. m.

At the 8:30 opening devotion Rev. Albert Dominick edified the assembly by his sermon on Isaiah 54:10 with the theme "The Peace of God."

Essay

Dr. Richard Caemmerer read the second portion of his essay. He spoke about "The Edifying Word in the Congregation" on the basis of Ephesians 4:11-16.

Procedures

Chairman Bruns outlined the procedures for the election of the remaining four Vice-Presidents and called for the nominating ballot.

The minutes of the fifth session were adopted as read.

Resolved, That the text of Dr. Schiotz's address be published in the PROCEEDINGS.

Vice-President Roland Wiederaenders took the chair.

Higher Education

Chairman E. C. Weber of Committee 6 introduced Dr. Lester Bayer, who in turn introduced Mr. David Roschke, the 1969—70 student body president at Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne. He expressed some of the concerns of the young visitors about higher education.

The convention returned to discussing an amendment to Resolution 6-05. The amendment was lost. The convention adopted the resolution to give discretionary power to various boards for consolidating junior colleges (TB 100, 6-05).

It declined an overture to form a panel for a critical evaluation of the synodical educational system (TB 100, 6-06) and encouraged increasing of student aid and vigorous recruitment efforts (TB 101, 6-07). To this resolution an amendment was added "that special emphasis be given to the recruitment and subsidy of full-time church workers from minority groups."

Dr. Harms resumed the chair. He ruled that the Board of Control of River Forest can be expanded from seven to nine members under the provisions of the *Handbook*.

Dr. Robert J. Marshall

Dr. Harms presented the Rev. Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America. Dr. Marshall, using liturgical phrases, brought the greet-

ings of his church body. He pointed to the unity in Baptism between the church bodies as a potential of greater unity between them. He stressed the contributions the Lutherans have to make in the present world situation. He thanked God for the unity already existing and expressed the hope that it would increase. He commended Dr. Harms for his persevering patience, integrity, and wisdom, and bespoke the blessing of God on Dr. Harms, Dr. J. A. O. Preus, and the Missouri Synod. The convention gave Dr. Marshall a rising ovation.

Young People's Work

Chairman Neunaber of Committee 8 presented four young people of the Walther League who addressed the convention on the social issues which are the Walther League's main concerns. They were Dave Croon, Bill Kunke, Frieda Armstrong, and Fidel Ynigues.

The convention commended the Walther League for past services and prayed that the Spirit be given it in its newly adopted objectives (TB 170, 8-07) and therefore also declined the overture repudiating the present approach of the Walther League (TB 171, 8-08).

It encouraged local youth groups to adopt descriptive local names (TB 170, 8-06). The resolution commending the Prince of Peace Volunteer program and the encouragement of the development of relevant programs (TB 168-169, 8-04) was discussed but not acted on, since sixteen additional speakers wanted the microphone. The previous resolution also invoked considerable discussion.

Social Action and Welfare

Dr. Martin C. Poch directed the report of Committee 9.

Continued support of the World Relief program was approved (TB 157-158, 9-02).

All Districts were encouraged to appoint a Commission on Ministerial Health, and the synodical commission was commended (TB 166, 9-10).

The convention expressed the desire that congregations study the social action documents, which were commended (TB 214, 9-13).

The resolution to avoid racism especially in membership transfers was amended with the substitution of "all racism" for "everything that can be interpreted as racism" and adopted (TB 159, 9-04).

Closing

Rev. Albert Dominick spoke the prayer at the close of the session.

Session 7

July 15, Afternoon

Opening

Mr. C. W. Muhlenbruch gave the opening prayer. The minutes of the sixth session were adopted as read.

Elections

Mr. W. W. Kayser, chairman of the Board for Convention Nominations, presented the following additional names for the Board of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest: George Brueggemann, Richard C. Dick-

inson, Irwin L. Mellenthin, and Roger Wheeler. This slate was adopted.

The following were nominated from the floor: A. O. Gebauer, Walter C. Dissen, E. P. Kaufeldt, and A. R. Kretzmann. The list of nominations was closed by resolution.

Review Committee

The report of the special committee to review late overtures was approved (TB 211).

Communications

The chairman of Committee 10, Dr. August Bernthal, introduced Dr. O. A. Dorn for the centennial observance of Concordia Publishing House. Dr. Dorn introduced members of the CPH Board of Directors, Mr. Eric Smith of the London firm, and Mr. Alberto Mattis of Porto Alegre. Mr. Alfred Leimbach, chairman of the board, told about the finances of the firm. Dr. Dorn talked about the responsibilities of publishing for the church. Mr. Smith reported briefly on the activities of CPH Ltd., London. Professor Ralph Reinke was presented as the new assistant to the manager of CPH. Rev. Kenneth Hoffmann closed the observance of the centennial.

The convention recognized difficulties of always making statements in official documents that are not capable of being misunderstood and encouraged efforts to keep them in conformity with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions (TB 59-60, 10-12). An amendment to delete the words "and the doctrinal position of Synod" was lost, as was the amendment to substitute the words "which are the doctrinal position of the Synod." The count on the division was 435 against the amendment and 337 for the amendment.

Elections

Chairman Bruns announced that 937 ballots were cast on the nominating ballot for the remaining four Vice-Presidents. A total of 153 men were nominated. The following 12 had the largest number of votes: Victor L. Behnken, Bertwin Frey, Paul Jacobs, W. Harry Krieger, Guido Merken, Theo. F. Nickel, Ellis Nieting, E. C. Rakow, Paul Streufert, Alvin Wagner, E. C. Weber, and George Wittmer.

Marshall's Address

Resolved, That Dr. Marshall's address be printed in full in the PROCEEDINGS.

Stewardship and Finance; Retirement and Pensions

Chairman Ellis Nieting of Committee 12 returned to Resolution 12-15. The convention resolved that no changes are to be made in the scope of participation in benefit and retirement plans (TB 95, 12-15). It provided for the study of medical coverage for dependents of married students at the terminal schools of the Synod (TB 95-96, 12-16) and declined an overture to make retroactive certain claim procedures (TB 96, 12-17). It also declined an overture to permit loans to high school associations, however, allowing such loans meeting investment standards (TB 96-97, 12-18). It thanked

Dr. Harms for the "President's Fellowship Program" (TB 216, 12-22). The committee withdrew two resolutions (TB 148-150, 12-20 and 12-21).

Missions

The assembly sang, "Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices." Chairman Waldemar Meyer of Committee 1 introduced Rev. H. Rohe, who presented the John of Beverley Award to Rev. Walter W. Westermann, who received a standing ovation.

Dr. William H. Kohn recognized 31 men serving outside the United States and Canada. The assembly applauded these workers, whom Dr. Harms called "a tremendous corps of workers."

Discussion was resumed on the resolution about continuing cooperation in overseas missions (TB 36, 1-05). A motion to postpone action on this resolution until after the resolution on fellowship with The American Lutheran Church had been decided was lost. There were 17 who had asked for the floor when time elapsed for the discussion of the resolution.

Dr. John Kovac

President Harms introduced the Rev. Dr. John Kovac of the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches. He described the cordial relations between his synod and the Missouri Synod, looking forward to the merger of the two synods. He praised the progressive, Scriptural, evangelical leadership of Dr. Harms and congratulated Dr. J. A. O. Preus on his election. He closed with the assurance that the prayers of his church body would be with the Missouri Synod. The convention warmly applauded him with a standing ovation.

Church Relations

Dr. Harms announced that the report of Committee 2 would be postponed until the evening session.

Before the report of Committee 3 could be taken up, various motions on procedures were made.

Resolved, To vote by ballot on making a decision on the question of fellowship with The American Lutheran Church.

A motion to limit speaking to 1 minute from the floor was amended to 3 minutes, and it was then resolved to limit speaking from the floor to 3 minutes.

The resolution to continue participation in the Lutheran Council in the United States of America was amended "that in preparation for future conventions formal reports of the representatives to LCUSA be submitted in time to be included in the *Convention Workbook* as provided by the New York convention resolution and Bylaw 16.01." The amended resolution was then adopted. The following references were added to this resolution: 3-280U (URO, p. 13); 3-281U (URO, p. 13); 3-301U (URO, p. 19); 3-318U (URO, pp. 22-23).

The resolution regarding fellowship with The American Lutheran Church was presented. The following references were to be added to *Today's Business*: 3-285U to 3-298U (URO, pp. 14-18); 3-302U to 3-303U (URO, p. 19); 3-305U to 3-316U (URO, pp. 20-22); 3-319 U to

3-323U (URO, pp. 23-25); 3-326U to 3-334U (URO, pp. 25-29); 3-340U (URO, p. 32); 3-346U to 3-355U (URO, pp. 34-39); 3-358U (URO, pp. 40-41); 3-362U to 3-363U (URO, p. 42); 3-366U to 3-379U (URO, pp. 42 to 44); 3-382U (URO, pp. 46-47).

The majority report of Committee 3 (TB 220-223, 3-15) was read by Rev. Lloyd Goetz. It was moved and seconded to adopt this report. The minority report (TB 223-224, 3-15A) was read by Mr. R. C. Hannenberg. It was signed by the following: Richard Hannenberg, O. E. Krohn, Frederick Kempert, Harry L. Mumm, Geo. D. Frohnäpfel, Bernard F. Farmer, Oswald Schuler, James H. Maxwell, H. W. Baxmann, Karl J. Jaech, Robert M. Hess.

Resolved, That the convention invite Dr. J. A. O. Preus to address the convention on the fellowship question, if he wishes to, and that the 3-minute rule be waived in this case.

Elections

There were 954 ballots cast for Vice-President; a majority of 478 was required for election. The Rev. Dr. Theodore F. Nickel is Second Vice-President.

The following are the nominees for the remaining three vice-presidential positions: Victor L. Behnken, W. Harry Krieger, Guido Merckens, Paul W. Streufert, Alvin Wagner, E. C. Weber.

Constitutional Matters

Resolved, To refer the question of adding members to the Young People's Board to the Commission on Constitutional Matters.

Dr. Roland Wiederaenders was in the chair during the debate on this question.

Closing

Dr. Harms resumed the chair for the closing announcements and the closing prayer by Mr. Harry Barr.

Session 8

July 15, Evening

Opening

Dr. William Buege rendered the opening prayer for the eighth session. Dr. W. Harry Krieger presided. The minutes of the seventh session were adopted as read.

Theological Matters

Chairman Victor L. Behnken of Committee 2 corrected line 5 of TB 80 to read "*Workbook Supplement*" instead of "Supplement." To TB 76, 2-16 he added the references 2-58U (URO, p. 5) and 2-69U (URO, p. 8).

The convention affirmed the historicity of the New Testament, making the affirmation an act of faith (TB 76, 2-16). Several amendments were offered but did not pass, among them one to substitute as the title "To Affirm the New Testament Record of Our Incarnate Lord."

The resolution to grant woman suffrage and board membership was discussed (TB 77-78, 2-17). Ten speakers remained when time was up.

Dr. Karl Holfeld

Dr. Harms took the chair and introduced Dr. Karl Holfeld, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. He brought the greetings of his church body and dwelt on four reasons for altar and pulpit fellowship between the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada and Lutheran Church—Canada (Missouri Synod). He received a standing ovation.

Elections

Chairman Brunns reported that the convention had completed the election of the Vice-Presidents: Dr. Victor L. Behnken was elected Third Vice-President; Dr. E. C. Weber was elected Fourth Vice-President; Dr. Paul W. Streufert was elected Fifth Vice-President.

Communications

Dr. August Bernthal introduced the report of Committee 10.

The convention resolved to amend the articles of agreement of Concordia Publishing House (TB 60—61, 10-13). A clause should be added to line 14 on page 61: "provided by the terms under which the same are held, be."

The convention declined the overture that 5% of Concordia Publishing House's profits go to Concordia Tract Mission but encouraged Concordia Publishing House and the members of the Synod to expand and support this mission (TB 61—62, 10-14).

It concurred in an overture encouraging the work of Christian artists (TB 62, 10-15) and urged CPH to continue its endeavors to depict characters without regard to race or color (TB 63, 10-16).

The Commission on Church Literature and the Board of Directors of CPH were asked to continue their study of the late Dr. William Beck's translation of the Old Testament and were encouraged to publish it if feasible (TB 63, 10-17).

It authorized a study by the Board of Public Relations of all publications within the Synod, recommendations to be presented to the 1971 convention (TB 64, 10-18).

Special Ministries and Sundry Matters

Chairman H. R. Frincke of Committee 11 introduced Dr. Kenneth Ahl, Executive Secretary of the Armed Forces Commission. Dr. Ahl expressed gratitude for the support given to the program and told of the work of this commission. He introduced Chaplain Herbert Schulze, a Vietnam veteran, who received an ovation at the conclusion of his message.

The convention accepted the report of the Armed Forces Commission and urged continued support of its program (TB 47, 11-06).

Chaplain Robert C. Fenning of the U.S. Navy was recognized.

No action was taken, for lack of time, on the resolution to decline Overture 11-11 (TB 48, 11-08).

Announcements

Dr. Roland Wiederaenders announced the schedule for Wednesday. Dr. Streufert asked for the privilege to

give an affirmative or negative answer to his election on Wednesday. This was granted.

Closing Devotion

Dr. William Buege led in the closing devotion. His message was based on John 15:5. He stressed that God's Word builds congregations and a congregation of congregations, also the words of Christ, "Without Me you can do nothing."

Session 9**July 16, Morning***Opening*

The Communion service before the session was conducted by Dr. W. Harry Krieger, assisted by eight fellow pastors. Rev. Robert Zehnder conducted the opening devotion. The text for his message was 1 John 4:7-11. He depicted the amazing love of God for man and our consequent love for each other.

Various announcements were made.

Essay

Dr. R. Caemmerer brought the third portion of his essay, based on Philippians 1:3-11. To have unity among churches, he said, you must have the edifying Word, and relations with all Christians require us to share this edifying Word, for the Word builds the church.

Church Relations

It was moved and seconded to suspend the rules and to continue discussion on Res. 3-15 until a decision is reached. There were 485 in favor of the motion; 369 against it. Since the motion required a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, the motion was lost.

Dr. Harms announced that Dr. Preus declined the request to make a statement on fellowship; he may want to do it later. Dr. Harms invoked the blessing of God on the deliberations and asked the delegates to be temperate in their remarks.

During part of the discussion Vice-President Wiederaenders served as chairman. During the course of the discussion it was resolved to limit each speaker to 2 minutes. At 10:30 a.m. the discussion was postponed to a later session.

Presentation

Dr. Harms presented Mrs. Warren Hartman of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and Mr. Gus Melde, the representative of Mr. Thomas D. McDougall, president of the Lutheran Laymen's League. Both addressed the convention briefly.

Special Ministries and Sundry Matters

Chairman H. R. Frincke of Committee 11 asked that consideration of Res. 11-08 be postponed until later.

The convention encouraged membership in and use of Concordia Historical Institute, thanked the Aid Association for Lutherans for its help to the Institute, declared its desire to know more about anniversaries, commended the staff, and accepted the report of the Concordia Historical Institute (TB 218—219, 11-14).

It encouraged congregations to appoint archivists (TB 217—218, 11-13).

The services of the Commission on Architecture are valuable and available (TB 263—264, 11-20).

The convention received the LLL report with commendation and gratitude (TB 217, 11-12).

It received the letter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England with thanks (TB 262—263, 11-18).

The report of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation was received gratefully (TB 264, 11-21). Designated structures within the Synod were urged to become acquainted with and to use the services of this Foundation (TB 49, 11-10).

Parish Education and Services

Chairman H. W. Niermann continued the report of Committee 7 with Dr. George Wittmer in the chair.

The convention urged every congregation of the Synod to develop a variety of learning settings and experiences for all its members by means of various measures (TB 140—141, 7-03). After some debate it encouraged designated synodical agencies to launch a wide-reaching research program in Christian education (TB 141—142, 7-04).

A resolution to reaffirm the 1965 resolution on federal aid for children in nonpublic schools and to favor boards helping to shape such legislation was amended, but time did not permit discussion or resolution of the amendment (TB 142, 7-05).

Closing

After announcements had been made, Rev. Robert Zehnder offered the closing prayer.

Session 10

July 16, Afternoon

Opening

Mr. Walter F. Steinberg spoke the opening prayer.

Missions

Dr. Harms announced that with the consent of the Board of Directors he had invited Pastors Albert Pero Jr. and Will Herzfeld to come forward with a group. About 30 blacks came forward with them. Pastors Pero and Herzfeld spoke to the assembly. They presented the Rev. Messrs. Dominick, Hunt, Robinson, Lehman, Dickinson, Jenkins, and Foard. The convention gave these seven veterans a standing ovation with sustained applause. Pastor Herzfeld presented six demands to the convention. In conclusion, Pastor Pero thanked Dr. Harms for allowing time to them.

Theological Matters

Chairman Victor L. Behnken of Committee 2 referred the convention to the resolution to grant woman suffrage and board membership, which had been postponed (TB 77, 2-17). There was considerable discussion on this resolution. A substitute motion was defeated. Miss Sandra Grand, a youth representative, was permitted to address the assembly and spoke in favor of the motion. The resolution was adopted.

The convention agreed that the Synod has spoken on the authorship of the Pentateuch and the Book of

Isaiah and directed the authors of specified overtures to direct their questions to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (TB 66, 2-01).

It encouraged all its members to recognize the magnitude of God's blessings, especially in reference to the three *solas*, and reaffirmed the resolution of the 1967 New York convention (2-26) regarding the proper action in doctrinal discipline (TB 67, 2-02). It again declared that Jesus Christ is the only Savior and that the Scriptures are the verbally inspired and infallible Word of God (TB 67—68, 2-03. See *Proceedings*, 1967, p. 92, 2-16; and *Proceedings*, 1965, p. 94, 2-01).

It reaffirmed Res. 2-08 of the 1965 convention, commended the President for his efforts in doctrinal supervision, and asked such continued supervision (TB 69, 2-06). The committee added the reference 2-72U (URO, p. 10) and corrected TB, p. 70, line 4, to read "1962" instead of "1963."

After this resolution the assembly sang the Creed.

Stewardship and Finance; Retirement and Benefits

Chairman Ellis Nieting brought the report of Committee 12. The convention asked the Stewardship Department to develop and implement programs for designating specific mission areas for budgetary purposes (TB 86, 12-06). It resolved that the Districts should adequately support the work of the Synod and asked for planned budgets (TB 87—88, 12-07). Line 52 of TB 87 was changed to read "in addition to" instead of "exclusive of." The subject of the resolution, TB 87, line 6, was changed to read "To Limit Budget to District Commitments and Sundry Income." The convention resolved that materials should be developed about the conservation of human and natural resources (TB 88, 12-08).

The Synod urged the congregations to make special efforts to meet the 1969 budget of the Synod. The resolution was amended to read: "Resolved, That we urge each congregation to put forth a special effort to exceed its regular commitment and also to support wholeheartedly the Synodwide special offering scheduled for the 30th of November, 1969, so that our 1969 program may be completed" (TB 148, 12-19). Line 15 "kingdom" was changed to "church." It was pointed out that on the 30th of November at 2:05 a. m. the District commitments will have been spent and that on the 3d of December at 7:11 a. m. all promised funds will be exhausted.

The convention declined the proposed \$30,000,000 offering and participation in the LCUSA Open End Appeal, and asked that appropriate recommendations be brought to the 1971 convention (TB 271, 12-23). A motion to recommit was lost. An amendment to empower the Board of Directors to investigate the Open End Appeal with permission to engage in the effort was lost by 424 negative votes to 273 affirmative votes.

The signatures for Res. 12-23 and 12-24 on TB pages 272 and 273 are corrected to read: Ellis Nieting, chairman, and John P. Uhlig, secretary.

The convention certified that it wanted the Synod to try the "Venture of Faith" again (TB 272—273, 12-24).

Chairman Nieting announced that Committee 12 had completed its assignment.

Social Action and Welfare

Chairman Martin C. Poch for Committee 9 introduced the report of the committee.

The convention endorsed "Project Equality" (TB 160, 9-07).

The resolution to affirm the legitimacy of black power and black separatism (TB 161, 9-08) was recommitted.

The convention considered a resolution to ask the church to make renewed efforts to improve the present moral climate and to inform various public officials of these concerns of the Synod (TB 158, 9-03). The resolution was amended to the effect that Canadian and provincial governments be informed through Lutheran Church—Canada. It was amended further to the effect that each member of the Synod be encouraged to write on this matter to governmental officials. No action was taken on the resolution for lack of time.

Registration Committee

The Registration Committee announced that the registrations would be closed at 6 p.m. today.

Higher Education

Chairman E. C. Weber introduced the report of Committee 6.

The resolution to approve capital projects for the schools of the Synod totaling \$605,000 was read (TB 195, 6-22). The resolution to grant Alabama Lutheran College and High School at Selma the right to launch a special drive was also read (TB 196, 6-23). *Resolved*, to postpone consideration of Res. 6-22 until Res. 6-23 has been disposed of.

Mr. James Thomas, president of the student body at the Selma school, was introduced and pleaded that the assembly grant badly needed funds for the school. After more discussion this resolution was recommitted.

Dr. Paul W. Streufert

Dr. Streufert read a statement in which he announced that he accepted the election as Fifth Vice-President of the Synod. He received a standing ovation for his announcement.

Report

Dr. Oliver R. Harms read the following response:

"At the opening of our session this afternoon, the convention was deeply moved by an experience in which black members of our fellowship, under the leadership of Pastor Albert Pero and Pastor Will Herzfeld, appeared before the convention.

"They honored the founders and fathers of the Black Lutherans of our church. Young people of the group escorted to the stage: Rev. Albert Dominick, Dr. Peter Hunt, Pastor Dewitt Robinson, Pastor Moses Dickinson, Pastor Rockefeller Jenkins, Pastor Howard Foard, and Pastor H. J. Lehman.

"In a very calm, deliberate, and restrained manner, Pastor Herzfeld then listed six demands involving

priorities of the church. These are on file with the convention's secretary.

"When the presentation was completed, many persons in the auditorium joined the group for a fifteen minute interval in front of the convention hall for prayer, singing, and sharing.

"We heard the demands. We understood the urgency. We appreciate the love and restraint with which they were presented. I herewith charge the respective boards, committees, and commissions to assign priority to these demands and to do everything in their power to see that the needs expressed are met.

"In order that our brethren who made the presentation may know your concurrence, I would ask a voting delegate to sponsor the following brief resolution:

"*Be It Resolved*, That the convention acknowledge the demands and their urgency, recognize the love for Christ and the church which motivated the presentation, and concur in the charge issued by the President."

The resolution was moved and seconded from the floor. It was called by Dr. Roland Wiederaenders as chairman and passed.

Elections

Fourteen ballots were distributed for the election of various boards.

Vice-President W. Harry Krieger was in the chair during the balloting.

Closing

Mr. Walter Hinck read the closing prayer after announcements.

Session 11

July 16, Evening

Opening

The chair called the eleventh session of the convention to order at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Gerhardt E. Nitz spoke the opening prayer.

The minutes for the eighth, ninth, and tenth sessions were approved as read.

Synodical Administration

Chairman E. C. Rakow introduced the report of Committee 4.

The convention voted to consolidate the Board of Social Ministry and the Board of World Relief (TB 250, 4-25) and established a Commission on Lutheran Lay Higher Education (TB 250—251, 4-26). The Board of Directors was instructed to clarify the functions of the proposed Department of Special Resources Development and report to the 1971 convention (TB 257, 4-32). The convention adopted a divisional realignment of the synodical administrative structure and advised the Board of Directors to provide full-time heads of divisions if needed (TB 251—254, 4-27). The word "consolidated" was inserted in line 37, p. 254. On p. 253, line 26, the correction was made to read "Board for Lutheran Television."

The convention agreed that the President appoint

a committee to study specified questions of administration and report to the 1971 convention (TB 256—257, 4-31). It directed that the concerns of Overture 4-22 be given full consideration by the Board of Social Ministry (TB 134, 4-22). In line 12, p. 134 "incorporated into" was changed to "consolidated with," and in line 16 "and World Relief" was added. The membership of the Stewardship Board was increased to seven (TB 124, 4-09), but the membership of boards was not limited to nine (TB 125, 4-10).

Higher Education

Chairman E. C. Weber introduced the report of Committee 6.

The convention encouraged annual offerings for Valparaiso University (TB 277, 6-34). The Board for Higher Education was urged to increase faculty salaries, the increase to be included in the 1970 budget (TB 104, 6-12). The convention allocated \$25,000 for a pilot program for continuing education for 100 pastors in the summer of 1970 and asked for an evaluation of this project at the 1971 convention (TB 105—106, 6-14). It declined an overture because the subject was covered in *Handbook* 6.83 (TB 197, 6-24).

The convention authorized procedures for certification of lay persons to perform certain carefully designated ministerial functions under approved supervision (TB 197—198, 6-25). There was considerable discussion on this question.

Church Relations

Rev. Lloyd Goetz, chairman of Committee 3, read a statement of the committee and led the convention in a prayer. Mr. Kenneth Steege of New York City, a student at Concordia College, Bronxville, was given an opportunity to address the convention. He offered a prayer and encouraged the convention to adopt the resolution on fellowship. In the course of the discussions Dr. J. A. O. Preus addressed the convention. He voiced a concern particularly for the doctrine of the Word of God, saying that he favored a delay to give an opportunity for further study on this subject. However, he promised to abide by the decision of this convention and to use strenuous efforts to draw all Lutherans into a consensus on fellowship.

The time for the discussion had almost elapsed when a motion for the previous question was carried. The vote was taken by ballot. It was resolved that the tabulation of the ballots be postponed until the time of the Thursday morning session.

Rev. Fred Foard was recognized.

In response to a remark from the floor, the assembly rose in a vote of thanks with sustained and rousing applause for the Christian spirit in which Dr. Harms had conducted the discussions on the fellowship question.

Closing Devotion

The closing devotion was a memorial service at which Dr. E. J. Friedrich and Rev. Gerhardt E. Nitz officiated. Mr. Gerhard Schroth led the convention

choir in his own composition, "Beloved, Let Us Love." Dr. Paul Manz was the organist. Dr. Friedrich based his sermon on Colossians 1:12-14, using the theme "Saints in Light."

Session 12

July 17, Morning

Opening

Rev. Herbert Lindemann and seven other pastors officiated at the pre-session Communion. Rev. James Brockman conducted the opening devotion, using James 5:7-11 as his text. He stressed that patience is an active exercise in children of God.

Essay

Dr. R. Caemmerer read the final portion of his essay on "The Edifying Word." He used Luke 10:38-42 as a basis for showing what bearing the edifying Word has on Christian families and on the work of congregations for Christian families.

The minutes for the eleventh session were adopted as read.

Church Relations

The chairman of the Committee on Elections, Arlen Bruns, announced that 522 votes were cast in favor of Res. 3-15, to accept altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church. Of a total of 961 ballots one was blank and 438 were opposed to the resolution. The announcement of the affirmative vote was greeted with applause, for which the assembly rose. At the direction of the chairman, the assembly sang the first stanza of the hymn "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past."

Several speakers called for the unity of the Synod now that this issue had been resolved. The Synod voted to show by a rising vote its unity and its intent to carry out its work.

President-elect Preus stated that the Synod has spoken and he will support its position and will carry out its wishes. He will set about the work of healing, of promoting the Synod's task of bringing the Gospel to others, and of furthering the life of the Synod under the edifying Word. He asked for the support and prayers of the Synod. The statement resulted in a standing ovation.

In response to a question the chairman stated that the vote on this resolution was a legal expression of the assembly and no referendum would be held.

Chairman Goetz made the following corrections in *Today's Business*: page 43, 3-06, add 3-268 and 3-269 (CW, p. 197); to TB 41—42, 3-04, add 3-271 to 3-274 (CW, pp. 198—199); to TB 220—224, 3-15, add 3-243 (CW, p. 189), 3-277, and 3-278 (CW p. 199).

Vice-President Wiederaenders took the chair. The convention resolved to establish altar and pulpit fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada (TB 243, 3-16). The resolution was amended to the effect that both the preamble and the conclusion of Res. 3-15 should be appended to Res. 3-16. The resolution was discussed at some length.

The convention authorized and encouraged Lutheran Church—Canada in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to pursue the quest for Lutheran unity with the Lutheran Church in America—Canada Section (TB 244—245, 3-17).

Synodical Administration

Dr. E. C. Rakow introduced the report of Committee 4.

The convention declined the request that a fee be charged for filing or printing overtures (TB 124, 4-08). A substitute motion to adopt the original overture was considered, but the substitute motion was defeated.

The convention declined the overture proposing that this 1969 convention recess and reconvene for a 3-day session (TB 126, 4-12).

It recommitted the resolution to grant authority for the implementation of the autonomy of Lutheran Church—Canada (TB 126, 4-13).

Dr. Harms resumed the chair.

It was resolved to strike TB 125, 4-11. This resolution is repeated (TB 136, 3-08).

The convention voted that representatives of minority groups be found on synodical and District boards and committees (TB 128—129, 4-17).

Higher Education

Dr. E. C. Weber, chairman of Committee 6, introduced the acting president of Concordia Seminary, Dr. Arthur C. Repp. Dr. Repp then presented Rev. Paul Stephan. Rev. Stephan presented the Distinguished Alumni award to the Rev. Alfred O. Fuerbringer, the retiring president of Concordia Seminary, for his unique contributions in an evangelical ministry and his progressive theological leadership.

The secretary of the committee read Res. 6-35 (TB 277—290). However, there was no time to act on this resolution.

Announcement

Dr. Harms announced that four veterans of the cross of the black clergy are to be added to the list of those recognized. They are: Pastor W. J. Tervalon, Pastor C. P. Thompson, Pastor J. V. Thompson, and Pastor G. S. Roberts. It was resolved to add these names.

Parish Education and Services

The chairman of Committee 7, H. W. Niermann, asked that the discussion on the amendment to Res. 7-05 (TB 142—143) be resumed. One suggested amendment was lost, but the amendment to strike the fourth whereas (TB 142, lines 51 to 53) was passed. The resolution with this amendment was adopted: to reaffirm the 1965 Detroit resolution regarding federal aid for children attending nonpublic schools and to encourage individuals to help shape acceptable legislation in this area (TB 142—143, 7-05).

Congregations were advised to complete the confirmation study (TB 143, 7-06).

The Council of Presidents was asked to study the

question of providing uniform documents for calls and transfers of Christian day school teachers and to report to the 1971 convention (TB 144, 7-07). Congregations were urged to become active in "Patterns of Performance" in 1969—70 and to improve salaries of teachers where called for (TB 144—145, 7-08).

Young People's Work

Chairman Neunaber of Committee 8 introduced Rev. Martin Steyer, who in turn introduced a group of six young adults with their spokesman, Mr. Clarence Berndt, president of the International Lutheran Young Adults Conference. He urged the formation of Lutheran young adult groups and representation of these groups on appropriate boards.

Debate Limited

It was resolved to limit each speaker to a resolution to 2 minutes. The chairman stated that this limitation does not refer to committee members.

Young People's Work

Discussion was resumed on Res. 8-04 (TB 168—169; see TB 299). The resolution was adopted to commend leaders and participants of the Prince of Peace Volunteer program and to direct the Board for Young People's Work to provide relevant models and programs of ministry for parish and community use (TB 168—169, 8-04).

Closing

After announcements Rev. James Brockmann spoke a closing prayer.

Session 13

July 17, Afternoon

Opening

The opening prayer was read by Mr. Rupert Dunklau.

Social Action and Welfare

Chairman Martin Poch for Committee 8 directed the attention of the assembly to the amended resolution dealing with the concerns for moral standards (see Minutes, Session 10). The resolution was adopted as amended (TB 158—159, 9-03). The convention requested the church to continue to be alert to the dangers of communism (TB 160, 9-05). No action was required on Overture 9-20, since the concern is covered by Article XVI of the Augsburg Confession (TB 160, 9-06).

The convention discussed the resolution dealing with world hunger (TB 212—213, 9-11). The committee approved a change in the second resolved, page 212, lines 31 and 32, instructing the Board of Directors "in its first regular meeting following this convention to appoint a committee charged with the task of immediately implementing this resolution." The convention adopted the amendment "that the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod be directed to divert \$100,000 to the Board of World Relief, to be used as judiciously as possible to feed at least

a few of the hungry of this world now." An amendment to allocate at least 40% of projected expenditures for the next biennium for self-help ministries was discussed but not acted on.

Constitutional Matters

Chairman F. Niedner of Committee 5 corrected TB page 151, line 41, by adding 5-18 to 5-22 (CW, pp. 235-236).

The convention amended *Handbook* Bylaw 1.27 a regarding reports and overtures (TB 151-152, 5-13) and changed Bylaw 1.27 b, c, d, e, f, g, after amending paragraph g requiring comments to be submitted 2 weeks instead of 1 week prior to the convention (TB 201-203, 5-19) and after adding reference 5-72U (URO, p. 61) to line 3 on p. 202. It also amended Bylaw 6.83 regarding appeals (TB 203-204, 5-21).

A resolution to decline the overtures requesting a division of the Atlantic District was referred back to the committee in consultation with the Commission on Constitutional Matters (TB 342, 5-29).

Communications

Chairman August Bernthal presented the report of Committee 10.

The convention thanked KFUE and KFUE-FM and encouraged the use of their services, the giving of gifts to them, and prayers for them (TB 64-65, 10-19).

It referred the study of a public relations office on the West Coast to the Board for Public Relations for consideration and action (TB 65, 10-20).

It considered the resolution on editing theological journals (TB 192-193, 10-21). It amended the resolution by adding "it" after "be" on line 50, TB 192, and by substituting "both theological journals" for "the theological journal," eliminating "The Concordia Theological Monthly," in lines 4 and 5 of TB 193. Line 22, TB 193, is to read "Resolved, That the Synod discharge the committee on editing theological journals." The resolution therefore commended the faculties of Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield and of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis for editing *The Springfielder* and *The Concordia Theological Monthly*, authorized Concordia Publishing House to publish both journals, urged that their doctrinal contents remain loyal to the doctrinal standards of the Synod, and bade them meet the needs of their readers (TB 192-193, 10-21). Because of this resolution the overture to establish a new theological journal was declined (TB 193-194, 10-22).

The Synod again endorsed the project of publishing Dr. C. F. W. Walther's writings and requested the Board of Directors to find means to make this project possible (TB 194, 10-23).

This completed the work of Committee 10.

Offering

During the discussion on world hunger the convention resolved that the assembly come prepared to give folding money for the hungry at the service scheduled

this evening. Later it resolved that the local committee should turn over this collection to the Board of Directors to administer it.

Elections

Chairman Bruns announced the results of the elections, including the runoff elections. [These results are attached to the Minutes.]

Intermission

A group of young people provided some music and song in the modern idiom during which the assembly stood for relaxation.

Special Ministries and Sundry Matters

Chairman H. R. Frincke presented the report of Committee 11.

The convention asked the Synod's commissioners to LCUSA to request a program for a common Lutheran witness against un-Christian and anti-Christian organizations (TB 262, 11-17).

The convention adopted the resolution to take no action on Overture 11-05, since the concern of this overture is already being met (TB 261, 11-16). After changing "lodge question" to "lodge" the committee won support for its recommendation that a special committee be appointed to study the Synod's position concerning lodges (TB 261, 11-15). The convention received the report of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations with thanks (TB 263, 11-19).

In the light of Resolution 2-28 it adopted the recommendation to decline Overture 11-11 about counseling on selective service (TB 48, 11-08). As in the eighth session there was again considerable discussion on this resolution.

Synodical Administration

Chairman E. C. Rakow presented the report of Committee 4.

The convention instructed auxiliary organizations to develop a mechanism of coordination (TB 320-321, 4-34). On page 320 "instruct" was changed to "call upon" in line 48, and in line 51 "advantages" was changed to read "the possible advantages."

The convention directed the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House and the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals to come to a settlement of their differences and spelled out the steps to be taken (TB 331, 4-36). The recommitted Resolution 4-13 was submitted in revision, the phraseology in lines 47 and 48 on TB 126 to read "in accord with the constitution of each body." The resolution to implement the autonomy for Lutheran Church — Canada was adopted as revised (TB, 126, 4-13).

Individuals complaining about wrong practices were advised to follow established procedures (TB 129, 4-18).

The convention resolved to keep the pattern of biennial conventions. However, it asked the Council of Administrators to evaluate past experiences of conventions and amended the resolution by adding the

request to this Council "to explore ways of streamlining convention procedures or of finding a substitute method for conducting the Synod's business, because of the great and increasing cost of the conventions and in the interest of good stewardship" (TB 130, 4-19).

The convention directed the Board for Higher Education to study changes necessary in the Synod's schools for receiving federal aid and to report its findings to the 1971 convention (TB 256, 4-30). On TB 256, lines 12 and 13, in the whereas of this resolution "our country" was changed to "the United States" by formal amendment.

Dr. W. Harry Krieger occupied the chair for the remainder of the session.

The convention requested members, congregations, and agencies of the Synod to be responsive to human needs and to support proper efforts to control pollution and asked the Board of Social Ministries to exercise the initiative in the further implementation of these resolutions (TB 135, 4-24).

It declined the request to set up a temporary advisory committee on supervision of doctrine and practice (TB 134, 4-23). However, it asked that steps be taken toward more effective supervision in these matters (TB 255, 4-28).

Missions

Chairman Waldemar E. Meyer of Committee 1 returned to the resolution discussed in the second session and in the seventh session on cooperation in overseas missions. The convention adopted this resolution (TB 36, 1-05).

The convention expressed concern that the best use of resources be made in carrying out the mission of the church (TB 188, 1-09). Regional structures for missions are to be developed (TB 188—189, 1-10). The allocation of funds in the areas of special ministries are to be approved by the Board for Missions (TB 189, 1-11).

The Synod instructed the Division of Communications to consult with the Board for Missions and the Lutheran Laymen's League (the latter by an amendment) to establish criteria, to reevaluate priorities, to develop new plans and projects, and to bring its findings to the 1971 convention (TB 190—191, 1-12).

The Synod requested that its membership invest more heavily in the Synod's Church Extension Fund (TB 191, 1-13).

It encouraged the Board of Directors to make funds available for capital needs and advance site acquisitions (TB 192, 1-14).

In a lengthy resolution it authorized the Board for Missions to develop ways to enable the Synod's membership "to be Christ's people" and to plan new ministries (TB 269, 1-15A).

Closing

After announcements had been made, Mr. John A. Mueller spoke the closing prayer.

Session 14

July 17, Evening

Opening

The opening prayer was spoken by Dr. W. Harry Krieger. The minutes of the twelfth session were approved as read.

Work Program Review

Rev. Carl A. Heckmann, chairman of Committee 16, presented the Work Program schedule and explained it.

The recommendation of the committee to increase income by a minimum of 10% in each of the next 2 years was adopted (TB 308, 16-02). The Work Program of \$30,827,100 for the year 1970 and \$32,131,700 for the year 1971 was adopted after a period of questioning and discussion (TB 305—307, 16-01).

This completed the work of Committee 16.

Parish Education and Services

Chairman H. W. Niermann of Committee 7 introduced the report of his committee.

The Board of Directors was instructed to arrange its priorities so as to implement the 1967 resolution to appoint an editor-consultant in urban education (TB 145—146, 7-09).

The concerns expressed in Resolution 7-10 (TB 146) are met by Resolution 2-08 (TB 71—72), and Resolution 7-10 was withdrawn.

Elections

Chairman Bruns announced the following additional elections for members of Boards of Control: St. Louis: Charles Burmeister; River Forest: A. R. Kretzmann, Kurt E. Vragel; Austin: Albert Jesse; Bronxville: Robert C. Haupt; Concordia, Mo.: Orville Bopp; Milwaukee: Elmer A. Seefeldt; Oakland: Robert Daetz; Brazil: Antonio Oliveira.

Parish Education and Services

The convention resolved that the Board of Parish Education conduct seminars in family education for pastors and make biennial reports to the Synod (TB 147, 7-11).

The convention asked the Division of Parish Education and Services to consider the establishment of a Center for the Study of Parish Life and Its Nurture (TB 246—247, 7-12). The congregations of the Synod were urged to study the guidebook *The Edifying Word* (TB 247, 7-13). A resolution of recognition and thanks for the work of Dr. Oscar Feucht and Dr. Arthur Gross was adopted (TB 248, 7-14).

The convention accepted the report of the Board of Parish Education with commendation and gratitude (TB 248—249, 7-15).

This completed the work of Committee 7.

Youth Representatives

The youth representatives at the convention shared their views and impressions of the convention with the delegates. Most of them found it an edifying experience. Some impatience was expressed with the slow-



ness of the delegates to assess priorities. About 45 young people participated. They presented Dr. Harms with token gifts in gratitude for the experiences they had and as a tribute to the chairman's Christian spirit.

Closing Devotion

The closing devotion, which began at 9:45 p.m., had Dr. W. Harry Krieger as officiant. Dr. Herman A. Harms delivered the message on the basis of Psalm 100:2, "Serve the Lord with gladness." He installed the newly elected President, Vice-Presidents, and members of boards and commissions of the Synod. An offering for the hungry was taken at the doors.

Session 15

July 18, Morning

Opening

The Rev. Dr. A. R. Kretzmann conducted the pre-session Communion service with seven assistants. Rev. Walter Enge addressed the assembly in the opening service on 1 Corinthians 10:13, "God is faithful." We thank God for His fidelity to our people. We are faithful to Him by His power and grace, faithful to His Word and to the mission of His church.

The minutes of the thirteenth and fourteenth sessions were adopted.

Procedures

Resolved, That the vote on Res. 3-14, regarding applying for membership in the Lutheran World Federation, be by written ballot.

Church Relations

Chairman Lloyd Goetz of Committee 3 introduced the report.

The convention encouraged continued discussions with the Lutheran Church in America (TB 155, 3-13).

The resolution to apply for membership in the Lutheran World Federation was debated. Dr. Preus asked that no action be taken now because of the tensions in connection with the resolution on altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church. By

ballot vote the resolution was defeated, with 272 affirmative votes and 620 votes against the resolution.

Discussions were encouraged with other Christian groups, to give opportunity for testifying and witnessing (TB 154, 3-12). The question of selective fellowship is to be studied; congregations and members are to refrain from practicing altar and pulpit fellowship with congregations of church bodies with whom the Synod has not yet declared fellowship (TB 245, 3-18). The convention resolved to decline the overtures calling for a restructuring of Lutheranism (TB 245-246, 3-19).

Young People's Work

Chairman Neunaber of Committee 8 introduced the report of his committee. The Board for Young People's Work in conjunction with the Board for Higher Education was asked to study and to provide for a Youth Leadership Training Program for black and Latin-American youth (TB 168, 8-03). All-Lutheran programming in youth work was encouraged by a vote of 413 to 351 (TB 169, 8-05).

The *Handbook* was amended by adding 1.61 e, giving youth representatives advisory status, by 473 affirmative votes (TB 209, 8-10).

Missions

Chairman Waldemar Meyer introduced the report of Committee 1.

The Synod endorsed principles for campus ministries and directed the Board for Missions to communicate and clarify goals of campus ministries (TB 346-347, 1-20).

The resolution that the Board of Missions administer the work among the deaf through the Districts was defeated (TB 311-312, 1-18).

The convention called on the congregations of the Synod to repent, to renew their consecration to evangelism, and to study the extent of their meeting the spiritual and physical needs of their communities (TB 373, 1-22).

Social Action and Welfare

Chairman Poch of Committee 9 introduced the report of his committee. The mover of the amendment which was on the floor for the resolution on world hunger wished to withdraw his amendment. By formal vote the convention allowed this. After discussion the resolution expressing concerns for world hunger and directives for demonstrating these concerns was passed as amended (TB 212-213, 9-11; Minutes for Session 13).

The convention voted not to declare a moratorium on capital expenditures, while acknowledging the seriousness of the problem of world hunger and the charge of institutionalism (TB 323-324, 9-21). On TB 323, line 24, "balanced by" was changed to "held in tension with."

It defined the concept "black power" and affirmed the legitimacy of black power (TB 371-372, 9-22). In line 31, TB 371, the phrase is to read "the legitimacy of this concept," and in line 2 on page 372 "as defined herein" instead of "as they defined it."

Corrections

- TB 350, line 35, "12-18" not "12-21."
 TB 351, line 51, add "James Maxwell."
 TB 155, 3-14, line 41, add reference "3-261 (CW, p. 195)."
 TB 368, line 22, read "Fred Foard," not "Frank Foard."
 TB 358, line 40, read "Robert C. Fenning," not "Roger Henning."
 TB 362, line 18, read "Walter F. Steinberg" not "Walter Frank Steinberg."
 TB 154, line 18, read "To Encourage Discussion with Other Christian Groups."
 TB 155, line 34, read "To Apply for Membership in the Lutheran World Federation."
 TB 245, line 17, read "To Refrain from Selective Fellowship."
 TB 245, line 53, read "To Decline Overtures Calling for Restructuring Lutheranism."
 TB 365, line 28, delete "unanimously."
 TB 357, lines 42-44, correct to read "Dr. Karl Holfeld, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada. He brought the greetings of his church body and dwelt on four reasons for altar and pulpit fellowship between the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada and Lutheran Church — Canada (Missouri Synod)."
 TB 350, line 30, change "It permitted" to "It provided for the study of the matter of . . ."

Closing

Missionary Henry Otten brought the greetings of the India Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Rev. Gerhard Mundinger thanked the Arrangements Committee for its work, and the convention concurred with resounding applause.

Pastor Walter Enge spoke the closing prayer.

Session 16**July 18, Afternoon and Evening***Opening*

The chairman called the sixteenth session to order at 1:30 p.m. Dr. Roland Wiederaenders spoke the opening prayer.

The minutes of the fifteenth session were approved.

On a question of privilege a delegate expressed his grave concern as to the results of the action on Res. 3-15. Dr. Wiederaenders replied that Dr. Preus was preparing a letter for the congregations regarding the fellowship resolution and pleaded that there be no precipitate action.

Higher Education

Dr. E. C. Weber introduced the resolutions of Committee 6.

The convention resolved to provide up to \$1,000,000 in capital funds for Alabama Lutheran Academy and College at Selma, and the delegates pledged themselves to support the synodical appeal for this purpose (TB

379-380, 6-42). Dr. Hunt and the student body representative of Selma expressed their gratitude to the convention.

The convention endorsed the development of 4-year programs in principle and authorized designated boards to grant approval for expansion where defensible (TB 328-329, 6-39). It directed the Board for Higher Education to continue its study of higher education on the West Coast and asked that through various channels recommendations be made to the 1971 convention; the properties at Irvine and Lake Chabot are to be retained (TB 329-330, 6-40). It approved capital projects totaling \$605,000 for the schools and colleges (TB 195-196, 6-22).

It directed the BHE to study the consolidation of graduate programs and to assign them if necessary (TB 101-102, 6-08). It provided for a new arrangement for refunding deposit fees to church workers (TB 102, 6-09). It encouraged the faculties to continue their concerns for training in evangelism (TB 103, 6-10).

It revised *Handbook* 6.33 a, making it mandatory for boards of control to meet at least three times a year (TB 103-104, 6-11). It asked the BHE to define eligibility requirements and criteria for faculty appointees (TB 290-291, 6-36). It requested the BHE to prepare a revision of *Handbook* 6.75, 6.77, 6.81, and 6.83 for recommendation to the 1971 convention (TB 291, 6-37). It requested the Council of Presidents to restudy *Handbook* 6.163 (TB 291-292, 6-38).

Synodical Administration

Chairman E. C. Rakow of Committee 4 made a statement on "politicking." By amendment this statement was incorporated as the preamble to a resolution which the convention adopted instructing the Council of Presidents to develop a statement on ethics; the resolution itself with the preamble is to be circulated among the members of the Synod. (TB 378, 4-38)

A committee is to be appointed to study the procedures of nominating and electing synodical officials, and the recommendations are to be presented to the 1971 convention (TB 378-379, 4-39).

Changes were made in *Handbook* Bylaws 13.31, 13.33, and 13.35 (to be renumbered), governing the Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded (TB 131 to 133, 4-21).

Dr. Wiederaenders occupied the chair. The convention expressed its appreciation by a rising vote to Dr. Oliver R. Harms for his dedicated service and untiring efforts on behalf of the Synod and invoked God's continued blessings on him and thanked Mrs. Harms (TB 321, 4-35). The motion that Dr. Harms be named Honorary President of the Synod was withdrawn at his request.

Dr. Harms resumed the chair.

The convention commended Dr. Walter F. Wolbrecht and accepted his report, making changes in *Handbook* 1.29, 1.37, 1.61 a, 1.61 c, 1.61 e (added), 2.12 for 2.11 e, 3.37, 6.25 f, 6.26 (added), 11.03 a, 11.04 (added), 2.29, 2.39 j, 2.89 e, 2.27 f and g, 6.163 a and c, 8.57 j (deleted),

9.21, 9.23 (deleted), 12.19, and 15.03 (deleted) (TB 314 to 320, 4-33).

Resolutions 4-06 and 4-07 (TB 123) and 4-16 (TB 128) were referred to the Board of Directors for action. Resolutions 4-15 (TB 127-128) and 4-37 (TB 332) were referred to the Council of Administrators for action. Res. 4-29 (TB 255) was referred to the Council of Presidents for action.

This completed the work of Committee 4.

Elections

Chairman Bruns informed the convention of the exact procedures taken in the counting of the ballots for Res. 3-15.

This completed the work of Committee 14.

Theological Matters

Chairman Victor L. Behnken presented the report of Committee 2.

The following resolutions were referred to the President of the Synod for action: 2-07 (TB 71), 2-08 (TB 71-72), 2-12 (TB 73-74), 2-25 (TB 259), 2-31 (TB 333), and 2-34 (TB 335).

On TB 71, line 9, the reference "7-02 (CW, p. 360)" is to be added.

The convention directed the CTCR to study charismatic movements, especially the baptism of the Spirit (TB 258, 8-23). It accepted and commended "A Review of the Question 'What Is a Doctrine?'" (TB 258-259, 2-24). It adopted principles of guidance for participation in cooperative programs (TB 260, 2-26).

The Synod reaffirmed its acceptance of the doctrinal statements previously held by the Synod and urged its members to honor and uphold them (TB 325, 2-27). In line 28 the words "to alter or" were deleted.

In TB 327, lines 9 and 12, the signatures are to read: Victor L. Behnken, chairman, and W. E. Griesse, secretary. The convention replaced Res. 2-35 of the 1967 convention by adopting another statement on conscientious objection, in which it reaffirmed loyalty and obedience to the government, its historic theological position on conscientious objection to an unjust war, and asked the government to grant status to a conscientious objector to a specific war (TB 326-327, 2-28).

The convention decided that the materials provided on hermeneutics should be studied and asked the Board of Directors to provide funds for workshops for this purpose (TB 327-328, 2-29). To TB 327, line 27, add "App. C (CW, pp. 65-66)."

The first resolution to recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was recommitted to Committee 2 (TB 336, 2-36).

The Commission on Theology and Church Relations was requested to send a clarification of "Doctrinal Concerns" (TB 336, 2-37).

The Synod reaffirmed its belief in the plenary, verbal inspiration of the Scriptures and their inerrancy and asked the CTCR to clarify further the term "inerrancy" (TB 337, 2-38).

A resolution, not printed in TB, was offered by Committee 2:

RESOLUTION 2-39

Subject: To Recognize the Work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 2-65U and 2-66U (URO, pp. 7-8)

Resolved, That the Synod recognize the humanitarian work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in behalf of his people; and be it also

Resolved, That we respectfully decline the last two resolves of Overture 2-65U (URO, p. 7).

The Synod resolved to abide by its historical position regarding Scripture (TB 335, 2-35). On line 41 add 2-68U and 2-69U (URO, p. 8). It received an expression of concern to remain faithful to its Scriptural basis (TB 333, 2-30). It affirmed its desire to follow orthodoxy (TB 334, 2-33). In the resolution the term "orthodoxy" was changed to "true Biblical teaching," and "heterodoxy" was changed to "false teaching." It adopted the report of the CTCR (TB 334, 2-32). The convention resolved, on motion from the floor, that in future conventions all resolutions of Committees 2 and 3 be presented to the convention prior to the last day, if at all possible.

This completed the work of Committee 2.

Young People's Work

Chairman Neunaber of Committee 8 presented the report of this committee.

Res. 8-11, dealing with youth involvement and concerns, was amended by the adoption of an eighth point: "We believe and affirm that the BYPW will give counsel and guidance to protect our youth against manipulation by politically sophisticated individuals, so that the witness of our young people as Christians and citizens may be the truth founded on accurate information." By common consent the third sentence of the third affirmation was deleted (TB 210, lines 22 and 23). On TB 210, line 20, the word "see" was changed to "become aware of," and in line 25 "aware of its oneness" was substituted for the word "one." The eight affirmations were adopted, and the BYPW was asked to give top priority to an effective implementation of these affirmations (TB 209-211, 8-11).

The report of the Board for Young People's Work was accepted (TB 171, 8-09). A resolution was adopted providing for the appointment of five young people to the Board of Youth Ministry (TB 345, 8-12). Res. 8-02 was withdrawn (TB 167-168 and TB 344-345).

Revisions of the Bylaws for the Board of Youth Ministry were accepted, *Handbook* 7.61, 7.65, 7.71, 7.73, 7.81, 7.83, and 7.91 (TB 381-383, 8-13).

This completed the work of Committee 8.

Higher Education

Dr. E. C. Weber introduced the report of Committee 6.

The convention adopted the resolution to amend the Bylaws (Colleges and Seminaries): 6.11 (delete), 6.27 b, 6.27 c (delete), 6.27 d (delete), 6.39 (add), 6.53 a, b, c, d, e, f, 6.54, 6.55, 6.59 e, 6.73 (delete), 6.79, 6.101, 6.103,

6.105 (delete), 6.107, 6.109, 6.111 (delete), 6.113, 6.115, 6.117, 6.125 (delete), 6.127 (delete), 6.129 (delete), 6.145 (delete), 6.146, 6.147, 6.165 (delete), 6.167 (delete) (TB 277—290, 6-35).

The convention encouraged the BHE to continue the Seward Concordia High School (TB 109, 6-20). It directed the BHE to study the developments in pre-seminary education, particularly in its implications for Seward and St. Paul (TB 198—199, 6-26). It asked synodical schools to consider hiring competent instructors from minority groups (TB 275, 6-30). It referred the report on lay higher education to the BHE and dismissed the committee with thanks (TB 275, 6-31).

It commended the St. Louis Board of Control and encouraged it to talk to Mr. Marcus Braun and, by amendment to the resolution, urged Mr. Braun to meet with the St. Louis Board of Control and not to distribute any more copies of his publication "A Laymen's Concern" until after he has met with the St. Louis Board of Control (TB 194—195, 6-21).

In an omnibus resolution the following resolutions were referred for proper action:

- Res. 6-16 (TB 107) to the Council of Presidents;
- Res. 6-28 and 6-29 (TB 274) to the Board for Higher Education;
- Res. 6-33 (TB 276) to the Council of Presidents;
- Res. 6-32 (TB 276) to the Board for Higher Education;
- Res. 6-19 (TB 108) to the BHE;
- Res. 6-17 (TB 107) to the seminary faculties;
- Res. 6-18 (TB 108) to the Board of Control at Oakland;
- Res. 6-15 (TB 106) to the Council of Presidents.

A substitute motion was adopted for Res. 6-41 (TB 330):

"WHEREAS, The setting of enrollment quotas at our synodical institutions is properly the responsibility of the BHE; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education shall have discretionary power to establish enrollment quotas at our synodical institutions."

The convention declined Overture 6-87 and resolved to continue the election of the Brazil Boards of Control by the synodical convention (TB 199, 6-27).

This completed the work of Committee 6.

Resolved, To limit all speeches to resolutions in the remaining time of this convention to 1 minute.

Missions

Chairman Waldemar E. Meyer presented the report of Committee 1.

The Synod resolved to designate the year 1973 as "Evangelism Year" (TB 34, 1-02) and pledged itself to a renewed dedication to evangelism (TB 372, 1-21). It suggested that "Bible Translation Day" be observed on Universal Bible Sunday (TB 187, 1-07; the word "possibly" in line 26 was deleted by amendment) and repeated that the training of Bible translators within

the Synod be coordinated (TB 309, 1-08) (TB 187—188, 1-08 was withdrawn).

The *Handbook* section dealing with the Council for Christian Medical Work was amended by an addition to 8.71 a: "The Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the President shall appoint a Council for Christian Medical Work. . . ." In 8.71 d "The Medical Mission Committee LCUSA" was deleted and in its place was added "and shall maintain liaison with the Department of Medical Services of the Lutheran Council in the United States of America." Thereupon the amended section was adopted, 8.71 a, b, c, d, together with the proposed wording for 8.72, 8.73, and 17.07 (TB 374—376, 1-23).

Regarding new ministries the Synod urged comprehensive long-range planning on all levels (TB 309—310, 1-15B) and added the following amendment to the resolution: "Resolved, That we wholeheartedly affirm our support of those congregations which work in areas of most rapid change, that we enthusiastically encourage them to exercise their God-given freedom to experiment with and develop styles of ministry appropriate to their areas, and that we urge them to work closely in consultation with their District boards."

The Synod promised to support the Board for Missions, missionaries at home, those abroad, and those in specialized ministries (TB 376—377, 1-24).

Resolution 1-16A (TB 270) was withdrawn by the committee. Resolutions 1-16B (TB 310—311), 1-17 (TB 311), and 1-19 (TB 312—313) were referred to the Board for Missions by the Synod with power to act.

Resolution 1-18 (TB 311—312) was defeated.

A resolution from the floor was adopted. It reads: "To Intensify the Program of Deaf Missions

"WHEREAS, The Synod in convention has declined at this time to place the administration of deaf missions under the multi-District plan; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions be asked to continue its direction and supervision of deaf missions with greater use of deaf missions regional advisers; and be it finally

Resolved, That the deaf congregations, together with the Board for Missions and the Ephphatha Conference, be urged to develop the potential of our ministry to the deaf to the fullest degree in matters of stewardship, evangelism, youth ministry, and expansion."

This completed the work of Committee 1.

Social Action and Welfare

Chairman Martin C. Poch of Committee 9 presented the report of the committee.

The Synod expressed its deep concern for the mentally retarded (TB 213—214, 9-12). It accepted the report of the Board of Social Ministry (TB 215, 9-14). It encouraged the Districts to train and utilize clinically trained chaplains (TB 265, 9-16) and to engage in a "Program of Compassion" to train 5,000 for volunteer services in institutions (TB 265—266, 9-17).

The resolution to develop a common strategy for

national crises (TB 267—268, 9-19) was referred to the Board of Social Ministry for study and action. The Synod withheld judgment on the grape strike and boycott (TB 322, 9-20). It approved the appointment of a staff member for housing concerns (TB 215—216, 9-15).

The resolution to adopt the policy statement on accreditation of welfare agencies (TB 266—267, 9-18) was referred to the Board of Directors for study and action in consultation with the Board of Social Ministry and with the agencies.

This completed the work of Committee 9.

Church Relations

Chairman Lloyd Goetz presented the report of Committee 3.

The Synod asked that efforts be continued to seek reestablishment of fraternal relations with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (TB 338, 3-20). It referred Overtures 3-244, 3-245, and 3-246 (CW, pp. 189—190) to the CTCR for study and report (TB 338, 3-21). It encouraged the study of *The Theology of Fellowship* (TB 339, 3-22). It accepted Part II of the report of the CTCR (TB 339, 3-23).

This completed the work of Committee 3.

Constitutional Matters

Chairman F. Niedner of Committee 5 announced that the Synod itself had to act on the overtures regarding the division of the Atlantic District. The Synod thereupon declined the overtures to divide this District, but by amendment (for TB 342, lines 47-48) resolved, "That the Board of Directors study the matter of the division of the Atlantic District according to the guidelines adopted at this convention (TB 120, 4-03, and TB 121 to 122, 4-04) and that the Board of Directors of the Synod present a definite proposal regarding the division of the Atlantic District to the 1971 convention of the Synod" (TB 342, 5-29).

It realigned the Northern and Southern Nebraska Districts (TB 341—342, 5-28) and assigned District boundary lines in Kentucky (TB 207—208, 5-24). On TB 342, line 2, read "Deuel" for "Devel."

In order to reiterate the constitutional requirement that member congregations must be served by pastors and teachers belonging to the Synod, the convention adopted Bylaw 4.02 (TB 206—207, 5-23). Referenda not designated in the Constitution were declared unconstitutional (TB 204—205, 5-22), and changes in the Constitution to make them constitutional were denied (TB 340, 5-25; the third whereas was struck by amendment).

All delegates to synodical conventions are to be elected by majority vote according to an amendment to the *Handbook*, Bylaw 1.53, adopted by the convention (TB 200, 5-16). The method of selecting delegates was referred to the Council of Presidents (TB 200—201, 5-17), and the question of representation at synodical

and District conventions was referred to the President (TB 201, 5-18). Resolution 5-20 (TB 203) in answer to Overture 5-70U was referred to the Council of Presidents for action. The President was empowered to appoint a study committee to clarify the final and binding nature of Board of Appeals decisions (TB 343, 5-30).

Pleasant Hill Lutheran Church of Pleasant Hill, Oreg., and Hope Lutheran Church of Woodburn, Oreg., were accepted into synodical membership (TB 343, 5-31).

Overture 5-68U was declined and the Council of Administrators asked to offer recommendations regarding principles to govern synodical elections and appointments (TB 369, 5-32).

The Synod adopted a revision of *Handbook* Bylaw 2.15 (and 3.35) (TB 370, 5-34) and accepted a revision of Bylaw 3.61 b and 3.39 b (TB 369—370, 5-33).

The Synod declined Overture 3-44 (TB 340—341, 5-26).

By a motion from the floor it resolved that Overture 2-31 (CW, p. 81) is answered by Res. 2-27, which holds that doctrinal statements of the Synod are to be honored.

Many Thanks

By formal resolutions, made, seconded, and adopted, votes of thanks were extended to:

Dr. Oliver R. Harms for his handling of the convention;

The pages and hostesses;

Dr. Richard R. Caemmerer for his essay;

The secretaries and staff;

The local committees, and choirs, and the organists.

It was resolved to transmit to the Board of Youth Ministry for distribution the resolution on involvement and social action (8-11).

Registration

Chairman M. W. Lieske of Committee 16 announced that the attendance at the convention consisted of:

993 voting delegates

500 pastors as voting delegates

493 laymen as voting delegates

558 advisory delegates

61 youth representatives

The report was adopted.

Announcement

The total amount collected for "world hunger" was \$2,040.

Closing Service

The closing service was conducted by the Reverend Dr. Roland P. Wiederaenders, First Vice-President of the Synod. On the basis of Matt. 6:9-13 he spoke words of courage and encouragement. Dr. Harms closed the 48th convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at 9:00 p. m. in the name of the triune God.

CARL S. MEYER, Assistant Secretary

Election Results**Officers**

President: Dr. J. A. O. Preus
First Vice-President: Dr. R. P. Wiederaenders
Second Vice-President: Dr. Theo. F. Nickel
Third Vice-President: Dr. Victor L. Behnken
Fourth Vice-President: Dr. Edwin C. Weber
Fifth Vice-President: Dr. Paul W. Streufert
Secretary: Dr. Herbert Mueller
Treasurer: Dr. Milton Carpenter

Boards and Commissions

Board of Directors: Alvin W. Mueller, Gerhard E. Nitz, Walter F. Steinberg, Harry G. Barr, Walter F. Hinck, Robert W. Hirsch
Commission on Theology and Church Relations: Norbert H. Mueller, Lyle Saeger, John E. Jass
Board for Missions: Paul W. F. Harms, Will L. Herzfeld, Herman R. Mayer, Lorman M. Petersen, Alfred E. Jordan, Walter W. Kayser
Church Extension Board: Herman F. Zehnder, Vance H. Hinrichs, Martin Kahle, A. W. Krieger
Board of Stewardship: Paul A. Koehneke, Robert M. Demske, Martin F. Littmann
Board of Parish Education: Erich C. Peterson, Justus P. Kretzmann, H. James Boldt, Howard Lawonn, Charles Lawrence
Board of Youth Ministry: Michael J. Stelmachowicz, Paul G. Brill, Alvin W. Graef, Philip Volkman, John D. Fritz
Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church: Victor G. Albers, Roy Suelflow, Donald L. Kell, Vernon Nuss, Walter Rugland
Board of Appeals: Jack T. Robinson, Lorenz Wunderlich, Herbert H. Gross, Kenneth H. Beckenhauer, Ernest Verges
Committee for Convention Nominations: George H. Beiderwieden, Walter Beltz, Harry G. Coiner, Walter W. Koenig, Eugene L. Krentz, Alfred E. Thiem, Helmut H. Wiechmann, Duane Hingst, William E. Ludwig, Carl T. Schoesow, Wendell Grauer, Gilbert R. Heine, Russell H. Heuton, Gus Melde, Ivan J. Shields

Board of Directors, Concordia Publishing House: Kenneth R. Hoffmann, Art Linnemann, Richard Bock, Enno T. Sauer

Boards of Control

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis: George A. Loose, August E. Beckemeier, Eugene E. Fincke, Charles Burmeister
Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield: Milton J. Nauss, Martin F. Wessler, Harold M. Olsen
Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne: Henry Blanke, Herbert C. Moldenhauer, Alex H. Guebert, Robert C. Moellering, Kenneth Vogt
Concordia Teachers College, River Forest: Roland F. Eggerding, Ralph Brauer, Lawrence W. Forster, A. R. Kretzmann, Kurt E. Vragel
Concordia Teachers College, Seward: Elmer Luessenhop, Raymond W. Petersen, Bill M. Baird, Lee Lohrberg
Concordia, Ann Arbor: Richard H. Bernthal, Martin F. Rummel, Edward P. Staubitz
Concordia, Austin: Howard H. Klein, Albert Jesse
Concordia, Bronxville: George H. Mueller, Frank W. Mueller, Robert C. Haupt
St. Paul's, Concordia, Mo: Francis E. Roschke, Orville Bopp
Concordia, Milwaukee: Felix H. Kretzschmar, Emil Seefeldt
Concordia, St. Paul: Harold F. Schweigert, Paul H. Seltz
Concordia, Edmonton: Arnold R. Dyke, Edward Schultz
California Concordia, Oakland: Ottomar H. Tietjen, Walter A. Uffelman, Robert Daetz
Concordia, Portland: Erwin A. Gerken, Burton Bosch, Kenneth Lien
Alabama Lutheran, Selma: Albert Dominick, Grover C. Dixon, Jr., Percy Herzfeld
St. John's, Winfield: Norbert R. Wodtke, Eugene M. Bickel, Walter Helberg
Concordia, Argentina: Federico Elseser, Victor Müller, Rodolfo Schewe, Gerardo Kroeger, Arturo Schneider
Teologico, Brazil: Martim Doege, Rubem Becker, José Carlos Jochims, Johannes Engel, Antonio Oliveira
Escola Normal, Brazil: Arno Schelp, Francisco Krueger, Arno Goerl, Siegfried Mueller
Pre-Teologico, Brazil: Adolfo Cassel, Alberto Mattis, Herberto Liechti, Benjamin Jandt, Paulo Raschke



Dr. Oliver R. Harms
Child of God
Man of God

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel: it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith, as it is written: "He who through faith is righteous shall live." (Romans 1:16-17 RSV)

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith, as it is written: The just shall live by faith. (Romans 1:16-17 KJV)

It was difficult to choose a text on which to address you on this occasion. There are so many issues on which something needs to be said. There are so many things which our God wants to say to us from His Word. There are many things I would like to say, some of them just as a man and some of them as a man of the church. Each of these sources suggests worthy themes like repentance, thanksgiving, or mission.

I was helped in this predicament by recalling that we are Lutheran Christians. This does not imply that we own a secret formula for resolving all the difficulties of life. Neither does it suggest that we ought to have special exemption from the assignment of wrestling with the problems common to the world and other Christians. It says simply that we can make a good ending because we can make a good beginning.

We make our beginning with God. What really counts is what God does and thinks and says about His creatures. The great decisive action of God has already taken place in Jesus Christ. The decisive message for all of history is what Christ's redemption means for all men. Justification by grace is not only the central doctrine of the Christian faith, as Luther pointed out, but it is also the central issue in all of human life.

Because of Jesus Christ we can begin with God in complete trust. Two words thread their way through the Gospel proclamation. They say: "For us." These words form a rainbow promise that brightens up every dark place and time of our life in the church and in the world. Because He is for us so perfectly, we have confidence in the midst of every difficulty that besets the church or our Synod. Because He is for us so altogether, we can move out with confidence into the world with the vision that all men should be able to say: "For us."

If we have gathered here in fear or uncertainty or weakness, then we are truly prepared to hear the Gospel. Our human frailty and the judgment of God have penetrated every fiber of our being, and now it is time to be reminded of the power of God's grace. Now is the time for us to speak to you today. A church assembled in convention, especially if it is a Lutheran Christian church, ought to know what it is and what it can be by the grace of God. We are

The Gospel-Powered Church

To say this is to confess that we have felt the impact of God's condemnation. The power of the Gospel always addresses itself to salvation, for the mercy of God always deals with people who are in trouble.

More specifically, the Gospel always concerns itself with people who are in trouble with God.

Not long ago debate raged over the question whether or not God is dead. We ought to be worried more that it makes so little difference to people in the church or in the world whether God exists or whether He makes any difference. When the Children of Israel, fleeing from the troops of Egypt, came to the shores of the Red Sea, then they knew they were in trouble. When later they ignored God's rescue and care by turning their attention and trust to idols made by their own hands, then God at once made them recognize the nature of their trouble—they were in trouble with Him.

It is time for us to recognize the nature of the trouble we are in, as church and as society. All of us are in trouble with God. We in the church, above all, are in trouble if we turn our highest trust and give our honor to anything other than the grace of God. We seem to sense in the darkness and dread of doom closing in around us that the world has gone mad and the church is in confusion and disarray. We should be sensing in this fact the power of God in judgment, for the Creator of all is a jealous God with whom no one dares to trifle. God means business.

The Gospel is the record of God's grace in conflict with every other power known among men. The Gospel tells how the Stronger One entered the palace of the strong one and won the victory. It is the good news that Christ came and that He prevailed in our place and in our stead against our enemies.

But the Gospel is always more than simply a record. It is a power. It is a fact, as St. Paul puts it, the power of God. In the Gospel God is not only making something known; He is making something happen. The Word of God tells and explains all that God does, but it is also the means by which God is at work in His dealing with men.

This is the way in which God has always dealt with His people. Throughout history He has found His ways to get His message to His people. But He has always been interested in doing more than inscribing His Law on tablets of stone, sending prophets with a word for the moment, or inspiring writers to pen letters. Throughout history God has been at work among men. He has underscored His Law by acts of judgment, sometimes as huge and dramatic as the flood, sometimes as sudden and intimate as the striking down of Ananias and Sapphira. But He has also underscored His mercy by forgiving the woman taken in adultery and those who were gathered beneath the cross. He has done so by healing every hurt and showing that all is well between God and those who have put their trust in Christ.

In the Gospel God reveals His righteousness. He makes known that He himself has set things right with His creatures through Jesus Christ, and there He shares His own perfect righteousness by giving us

all that Christ is. The Gospel is all these things, and it does all these things in the here and now. We can trust the Gospel because God is at work speaking and acting through it. The Word of God is completely reliable and wholly inerrant because God Himself is reliable. Even as God would not deceive us or mislead or confuse, so His Word does not deceive or confuse or mislead.

Yet we know how much uncertainty and confusion there seems to be, even among us, concerning the Word of God. Brethren, are we truly divided over what the Word of God is, what it says, or what its purpose is? Does the difficulty lie elsewhere? Is the problem with God? Is the difficulty with His Word? Is the difficulty with us? Is it Satan who would trouble us and use our weakness to gain a foothold on us and among us?

Our text has something to say to us in this circumstance. It describes the Gospel as God's power. It calls the Gospel a revelation. It says that the Gospel operates in the realm of faith. All of this sounds simple and self-evident. Let me remind you that these promises of God were neither simple nor self-evident when they were spoken long ago to Abraham. They were spoken to Habbakuk when God said: "The just shall live by faith." It was possible for Abraham to trust God without knowing exactly how or when God would give him a son after he had already waited for two decades for such a miraculous event. It was possible for Abraham and Habbakuk to put their faith in God when they had no signs or signed statements.

In our littleness of faith we ask God to tell us how and to explain His operations in ways that will satisfy our little minds. Like Thomas we set the conditions under which we will trust our Savior. And if we often doubt or hesitate at the Word of the Savior, who has never failed us, then how do we expect to be able to trust our brethren, who have a long record of failure when they speak the Word of God to us? Brethren, let us not create obstacles where there are none. Neither let us be ready tools of the evil one. There are obstacles enough, and obstacles so huge for believing, that the Gospel alone is powerful enough to deal with them.

Because the Gospel is such a power, let us use it. Rather, I should say, let us be used by the Gospel. This is all that God ever wants from us, that we should surrender wholeheartedly to Him who loves us more than we love ourselves. With Elijah we have moments of anxiety about the church, for it seems too weak and divided in the face of complex and grave issues in human existence. But quietly and unnoticed the grace of God still brings men to faith and holds them despite all hindrances. Like the disciples, we are uneasy and have misgivings about our brethren. But our very coming here is itself a testimony to the power of the Gospel to prevail in each of us. He who has begun this good work in us will continue it. We can count on His grace in our brethren more than we can count on any other power. And we can count on God's purpose. He will lead our brethren better than any of us might do.

Certainly there always seems to be a risk involved in faith. Faith means daring to go against the whole stream of common sense and experience. It means to expect the impossible as altogether probable and what God promises to be a sure thing. It means setting aside what we can see and know and touch for what is unseen and intangible and unknown. Faith is the step or the leap into a dark place.

Nevertheless, the truth is that God has taken all the risk out of life and death. Christ has gone before us on our way all the way to death and hell and resurrection. The Gospel is the declaration that He now also goes along with us as we make our own way. Now the only risk we ever take is to ignore the call by which God speaks to our faith from His grace.

Passages like our text prompt us to dream God's dreams after Him. Not long ago our nation was awakened by a man who dared to tell of his dreams for his people. He dared to say: "I have a dream." Centuries earlier another Man taught His people to pray a prayer that is rich with His visions for His people, and this is our Lord's prayer, and it is our prayer for His world. An evangelical church worthy of the name, a Gospel-powered church, by its very nature is aware of the goals set for it by the grace of God.

1. God's grace gives the church a sense of security. Our trust is not in what we are or have. Our security has nothing to do with the cattle of a thousand hills or an investment portfolio. It has nothing to do with our storehouse of knowledge so vast that we must now store and retrieve it electronically and so accurate that it enables us to set foot on the moon. We dare to be sure because God has washed us clean of our sin and made us His own. It is Christ who stills our anxieties and frees us to live in hope and joy.

2. The grace of God unites us. If God is unwilling to let anything keep anyone apart from Him at any time, then that same grace also is able to overcome barriers that separate us from one another for any reason. Jesus Himself said that the way in which believers live their oneness on earth is the great witness that tells the world of the unity that exists between Father and Son in heaven.

For us the abiding concern must always be, quite apart from formal fellowship arrangements, that we make our life with other believers a demonstration of the power of God's grace. While we seek to preserve the integrity of our church and our history, we must be concerned even more that our conduct toward others is a forthright profession of our trust in God's grace to do all He says and to do all He wants it to do. God is unmistakably clear; forgiving one another is a greater power for unity than debate or documents; it is the only way to unity that is genuine and lasting. There is a place for discussion and for regulations but only as a channel to explore means by which the Gospel can be given an opportunity to prevail among us.

In these days of the convention, as in the days that have gone before and that will follow after, there will

be stress on "The Edifying Word." This is always our great need: to let the Word of judgment and mercy build us up. This is the way in which God wants to be at work among us to build the whole body of Christ. God's first work is to overwhelm us with His love so that He takes us captive completely. God's work always begins with me. I am prepared to deal with my brother's failings when God has dealt graciously with my own immense burden of guilt. When I have sensed the quality of grace toward me, then I will know that the grace of God gives hope for unity — and that nothing else does.

3. The grace of God gives life. In the words of Habakuk and St. Paul: "The just shall live by faith." It is no accident that the Lutheran Confessions make the Word and sacraments to be the marks of the church. Where the grace of God touches men, there God is bringing His life to men. The church is God's creation in a special sense, for the Word of grace speaks into the tomb of the world much as Christ spoke into the tomb of Lazarus to say: "Arise, come alive, come forth. Go forth."

We in the church treasure the Gospel, but we dare never try to lock it into a treasure chest for safe-keeping. It cannot be contained. It is God's own explosive power. It produces changes as radical as death and life. We seek to use the Gospel in order to sustain faith but not to have faith as an end in itself; it is the channel by which God gives life to men.

The church doesn't have an easy time of being alive in a world where the sickness that pervades is the sickness unto death. We are always contending against time in a contest where everything is at stake. And the church has the only power that can really change anything, for we have the Gospel of life for all men. God doesn't want His creation to be in bondage to Satan through sin and death. God wants to restore His creatures to Himself so that He might again give full sway through His love among men. If we shrink at the sight and sound and smell of hate and prejudice and war, then we can imagine how God feels. After all, these are all His beloved creatures and His wonderful creation. God never intended things to come out this way.

How desperately God wants us to bring to a halt this frantic race toward self-destruction He has shown beyond all doubt by the redemption in Christ Jesus. Now He has entrusted to us the Gospel as life for a dying world. All the visions for good that have been dreamed depend on us as the bearers and sharers of the life of God in Christ. We truly have the destiny of the world in our hands. I need not remind you that when too long we forget or ignore the charge God has committed to us by our call to faith, God soon sends messengers from the world to pound rudely on our church doors to demand that we live out and give out life for the world.

4. Finally, as the church we confess that the grace of God is the glory of God. Where God's grace is most evident, there we must respond by giving Him our highest honor. We are indebted to praise and serve God for everything but above all that in Christ He has

claimed and named us for Himself. Where we are at our worst in our sin, there He has been at His best for us. He has been most loving when we are most unlovable. This is the Gospel. For this we give glory to God. It is God's doing alone. It is His power alone. Whatever the Gospel has done among us and whatever it has done through us, it has been the power of God at work. To Him belongs all the glory.

It is at this sensitive point that our failure and God's great grace both become most obvious. At times it takes voices speaking to us from the moon to remind us that our high calling is to recognize and honor Him who at the beginning made heaven and earth. But what will it take to remind us that we ought to glorify God by using the riches of our land and our technology in a way that will help others to know the goodness of God as Creator and Preserver?

For more than four and a half centuries we as evangelical Lutherans have had the Word and its precious Gospel cargo. But just where the love of God shines most brightly we have so often beclouded Him by standing in His way with our little learning, by our stubborn insistence that we with our prejudices and preferences are His best interpreters, and by our maneuvering to prevent God from saying and doing what He truly wants to say and do.

The glory of God shines most brightly where He is present as He lives in and among us. But we have dared to assert our private lordship in the life of the church and have done so in a way that our very way of living dishonors Him and calls into question our trust in the Gospel.

The work of our hands is to call forth praise for our God. God alone can judge whether our stewardship of time and money and talent says much to Him or to the world about the way we love and trust.

Brethren, I cannot close on this note. To do so would be to deny the Gospel power our text proclaims. By His mercy God has already forgiven us our bad talk and our back talk, our deceit and ambition and every other failing. He who alone has the right to cast stones has said: "Neither do I condemn thee."

None of this is new to us. Each of us can rightfully say: "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." Certainly our Synod says this. When we have put our trust in His mercy, God has never let us down, whether we have leaned on Him for ourselves or proclaimed the Gospel to others. Nor will He. God's highest goal for us and for all men is that we should trust Him for the sake of His grace. Christ is our proof that we will not be let down.

God is still among us. God still reigns among us. And where God reigns among His people, it is by the Gospel alone that He reigns. What does this mean? It means we can expect God by His Gospel to replace our anxiety with courage, to bring us into closer relation with others who truly and trustingly call Him Father, to awaken us to new life and service. Finally, it means that we will sing and say much more: SOLI DEO GLORIA.

OLIVER R. HARMS, *President*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For your sake and mine I begin this report with an introductory statement. In these comments I want to set forth the nature of this report. Then you and I will be able better to understand what is being said and what is meant.

This report is shaped by two elements. The Synod has outlined the responsibilities of the office of the President in its Constitution and Bylaws. It directs the President to "give an accurate report to Synod of his administration" (XI, B, 5 b). Obviously, however, the Synod does not work in a vacuum. In my report I intend to give an accounting of my administration in the light of the responsibilities assigned to the office of the President and to do so with an awareness of the setting in which we live and work as a church body.

When I accepted the present term of office in 1965, I described the office of the President as that of undershepherd and servant. I quote from the statement I made at that time:

As God's undershepherd I am pledged to lead you to the green pastures of God's Word and to the still waters of His forgiveness. But I will fail as undershepherd if I do not call you away from what is false and dangerous. I will seek to arouse you from sleep and indifference, to stir you to keep on the move, and, if it please God, I will guide you nearer to other sheep God is gathering into His fold.

As your chief servant I will seek to fill your needs by providing, directly and indirectly, for a full and faithful ministry. But I will also prod you on to develop and use the gifts God has given you for the ministry to which He has called you. The President's office will not rest until the people of God in our Synod are sharing the richness of God's gracious blessings with people everywhere. . . .

Tension develops in the office of the President when he seeks to be both undershepherd and chief servant. The President is at the same time God's man and the people's man. I plead with you, for the sake of God's people in our fellowship and those whom God would reach through us, that you help me fill this double role to the highest potential God gives.

Now, four years later, I testify at the outset that God has not failed me. He has been my own Good Shepherd. He has served me. He has faithfully sustained me with forgiveness and with every blessing of His grace. I confess that where I have failed you as a Synod, I have first failed my God. Where there has been success—and God alone rightly knows that—it is only because God has been faithful to us for Jesus' sake.

In the high office entrusted to me I have learned little but awe for the high honor in which God holds us and the perfect grace with which He always deals with us. I have learned to appreciate more deeply what it means that Jesus was our Shepherd and Servant and furthermore what it means for us to be that for each other and for the world He has loved unto death.

It is necessary to say also how much I have learned from those who have gone before us. In a special way I think of those who were first called Lutherans and of our early forefathers who claimed that name with pride. They have helped me to understand the nature of the Gospel and what it means to be an evangelical Lutheran Christian. The Word of God is never clearer or surer or

more glorious than when Jesus Christ enlightens, secures, and blesses it.

But this report is not an autobiographical sketch. The administration of this Synod is a joint effort, and many have shared with me all that such leadership implies. You have given me to stand at my side five Vice-Presidents and thirty-seven District Presidents. They have stood at their posts to listen, to speak, and to act in the name of the Synod. Let me single out two in particular. Doctor Roland P. Wiederaenders, our First Vice-President, has served us all quietly, diligently, and effectively. And until God called him home, Doctor John W. Behnken always served far beyond the call of duty.

My office is also more aware than most how the Synod owes a debt of gratitude to those who are called to manage the affairs of the Synod. I call attention to the Board of Directors, which always faces difficult and heavy responsibilities. I mention Doctor Walter F. Wolbrecht and the Council of Administrators, together with our various boards and commissions and their staffs. I dare not fail to mention the faithful and dedicated service of my administrative assistant, the Reverend Arnold A. Wessler. All across the land are our sixteen colleges and seminaries with their administrations and boards of control, our Districts and their officials and staffs. Everywhere behind the scenes are the thousands of unnamed workers who make the calling of God a high career. Finally, I am constrained to call attention to those like Doctor W. F. Bulle who have so nobly led us into fields of service on behalf of those who suffer the anguish of war, the hurt of handicap, or who plead the cause of the voiceless ones whom God has placed at our feet for healing and help.

The Synod directs its President to supervise the doctrine and life of the members, to supervise the management of synodical affairs, and to represent the church to others. All these tasks must be viewed in the context of the objectives which prompted the formation of this Synod and which induced us to become members of it. These objectives may often seem discredited and to be in disrepute. Yet they have a sanctity all of their own. They are consistent with the Scriptures. They are designed to give assurance that God will exert His blessed influence through these Scriptures among us and through us.

If there is any crisis at all that seems to be facing the church in our time it is this: The church has apparently forgotten the place and the power of the Gospel. Law and judgment now are being preached to the church by prophets from within and from without. After all, God has His own way at all times of making us feel our frailty and our failure. Now, as always, prophets are unpopular, and God's Word of judgment is distasteful. Now, as always, the Word of God is a living force. It produces resentment and anger. None of us wants to be told or to be shown what he really is like.

Evangelical Christians, above others, ought to know

what to do when we are unmasked before the world. Have we forgotten? We betray our faith when we pass by on the other side in order to avoid seeing or becoming involved. We betray our faith when we resort to adoption of resolutions or the passing of laws designed to make Christian people behave the way they ought.

God is still at work in the church and in the world. Now, as always, He is at work most of all through the Gospel, that secret weapon, that quiet Word which is dynamite. This Gospel is the treasure of the church, and it is the resource of the church. And when we say this, we need to know what we are talking about and what we mean. Possessing the Gospel and being possessed of it is more than capturing it in the right words and putting it down on paper. It means life, for the grace of God is always the life of God.

If this is the time when the sounds of judgment are being heard loudly and clearly and with due irritation, then this is especially the time for the Gospel to be heard and felt. There is no great mystery to the apathy and the hopelessness that grip men. We have all witnessed man's utter helplessness in dealing with the real problems of humanity and of time and of eternity. Manifestos and marches, unfulfilled promises and programs have only served as grim reminders of what we know too well already. So why should we try, or why should we care?

All this time God wants to make known how much He does care. When everyone else is ready to cut men down and to condemn them, then God wants to forgive them, embrace them as His children, and give them the chance with His help. This is the word that must get out. This is the message which the church ought to be saying and living with one another and with everyone else. The Gospel is God's proclamation of equal opportunity for all men. Through this Gospel God confers His status on men. The Gospel is God's power for every human situation.

Earlier I passed harsh judgment on our common life. Yet I have evidence to support my judgment. It seems to be public knowledge among us and beyond us that matters of doctrine hold special concern for us. Yet despite this fact I must report that in 1968 some District Presidents were involved in handling more than three times as many problem cases of a personal nature with our congregations and workers as cases concerning doctrinal matters. They dealt with problems involving performance of work three times as frequently as they dealt with doctrinal issues.

In 1968, even more than in earlier times, our church suffered excessive backdoor losses. There are many factors involved in such losses. But if we express concern about the number of marriages that end in failure, then we ought to be deeply concerned when for every three new accessions that enter into our membership by the front door there is one who departs by the back door. There is here a number equal to a good-sized District, equal to one hundred good-sized congregations. We are troubled at the tearing of bonds that hold us together in marriage, family, the community, and the

nation. I hold that we ought to be distressed when we seem too ready to dissolve or write off the fraternal bonds we have with those who share our faith.

It is in this setting that I report to you on the doctrine and life of the church. You know, as I do, that it is somewhat hazardous to venture a judgment concerning the state of health of the Synod, the condition of doctrine and life among us. The comments I make are based on several sources. The District Presidents regularly submit reports to my office at least once each year in formal fashion. In addition I have met to discuss these matters in a more informal manner with smaller groups of District Presidents at least once each year in regional meetings. Matters of concern to the doctrine and life of the Synod are also on the agenda when these men meet as the Council of Presidents. In addition I have met on regular and special occasions with the Vice-Presidents of the Synod. The Vice-Presidents assist my office in making regular visitations to the campuses of our colleges and seminaries, to the conventions of our Districts, and to the meetings of numerous boards and commissions of the Synod. In addition there are many and varied forms of unofficial contact and communication by which the President's office carries out the supervision of the doctrine and life of the Synod.

Earlier I reported that doctrinal differences seem to be of less significance than our difficulties in other areas of our common life. In the last two years no major new issues in the field of doctrine have arisen. The allegations generally continue to deal with the same subjects, and they frequently point fingers at the same people as in the past. The accusations generally do not emerge in large numbers until they are stimulated by some source or other. Also, as in the past, the appropriate officials have turned their attention to the matters promptly and responsibly. As in the past also, they have generally found that difficulties have originated in injudicious writing and speaking or in unwarranted misinterpretation and misunderstanding. It is my conviction that prompt action has been able generally to clarify the issues and to eliminate the difficulties. It is further my conviction that open and fraternal conversation and admonition have often helped to prevent difficulties or to resolve them.

I am, however, compelled to report to you my growing anxiety about the increasing number and the grave nature of personal and professional problems apparent in the life of our church. The spiritual ministry carried on by our workers and congregations is a responsibility that is becoming more demanding everywhere and all the time. Even the best of our people are being taxed to the limit. New burdens are added from within, and there is not available a ready supply of instant help to bear the burdens. On the contrary, those who so often need to be surrounded with an atmosphere of understanding and support have found that the climate instead is saturated with rumor, suspicion, and competition of all kinds.

Initial steps have now been taken to develop re-

sources available for our District Presidents as they seek to minister to workers and congregations under these trying conditions. More needs to be done, especially in a preventive way. More needs to be done by all of us. In essence we ought to be able to do more than any other human institution if we are prepared to conduct ourselves as Christian brethren. Our bonds as brothers will help us know how to deal with both weakness and false witness, with insecurity and covetousness, with integrity and dishonor alike.

Some months ago, with the cooperation of the presidents of our two seminaries, I convened a meeting with representatives of our seminary faculties. I asked that these faculties undertake a thorough study to determine what differences, if any, really exist between our theological professors. Further, I asked that they determine how significant such differences might be. They have readily agreed, and they have undertaken these studies and discussions.

In 1967 the Synod in convention established a new procedure for the doctrinal review of published materials. This procedure is now in operation. My office has solicited from appropriate boards, commissions, and agencies a listing of the numbers and competences of reviewers required for their operations. I have now appointed thirty-four reviewers, and they are now serving in this capacity. Upon the nomination of the proper divisions, a board of doctrinal reviewers has been appointed, made up of eleven persons. This board is at work drawing up guidelines for the reviewers and is establishing procedures by which review panels can begin to function when necessary. I have asked that these reviewers stand ready to submit whatever recommendations may be necessary for the refinement of the review procedure.

Meanwhile I urge everyone to read carefully before jumping to conclusions, to correspond directly with authors and editors before rushing into print. In a special tract, published at the directive of the 1967 convention, my office has described in greater detail the nature and purpose of Christian discipline in our Synod. It is my earnest hope that this small document can be of help to all of us as we seek to carry out our responsibilities to one another and to the doctrine and life of the church.

The Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod outline the duties of the President's office in the management of synodical affairs. They include, besides the supervision of the doctrine and life of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, such diverse assignments as making numerous important appointments and seeing to it that the resolutions of the Synod are carried out. During the last term of office we have created new and refined earlier devices for communicating and for implementing the work of the Synod. Immediately after each convention long lists of resolutions are prepared and discussed with leaders responsible for carrying out the will of the church in various fields. As a result, I believe our membership is better informed and perhaps participates more promptly and more widely than in the past.

The Synod's administration has attempted to provide

better planning and coordination. This is desirable, and it is necessary. It is also becoming increasingly complex and difficult. Our congregations and agencies, individually and in cooperation with other churches and often community organizations, are frequently responding in their own setting and on their own initiative. Similarly our Districts are often involved in new and significant work. All of this means that the Synod is often confronted with an accomplished fact. Decisions have been made, men and money have been precommitted. As a national institution we are often compelled to work around other commitments and other arrangements. Last but not least, we have expected executives to develop overall planning for the Synod when they are already overloaded with planning and carrying out their own large national program. I propose that we now provide full-time staff for this important planning function.

In a similar way I propose that we undertake revisions in the executive administration of the Synod. Few men face larger demands than do the District Presidents as they function on behalf of the Synod within their Districts and also on behalf of their Districts. The Synod has attempted to fill at least some of this gap by the election of five Vice-Presidents, one of whom serves in a full-time capacity. These men have served in the church nobly. It is essential, however, that we review our present operations and the circumstances under which we function. The aim of this review is to assure that our work is managed as efficiently as possible. In my judgment the changes that are visualized would require no additional outlay of funds. Further, these changes ought to be ready for adoption in 1971 and go into effect in 1973; for example: the structure and function of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations; the structure and function of the Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church; the structure and function of the office of the President relative to the work of the Vice-Presidents; the structure and function of other executive offices.

No report on church administration is possible, it seems, without a reference to financial matters. I make no apologies for including such references in this report. First, I review this aspect of Christian stewardship as one of the most joyous experiences in life. Here we personally can demonstrate our trust and love. Second, the funds we are talking about are related very intimately with God's own great work here on earth.

Since the last convention we have initiated some exploratory ventures for securing additional funds from those to whom God has entrusted greater material blessings. With the direct support of a small group, my office has been involved directly in this effort. The Synod should know and should give thanks to God that this effort has already produced more than two million dollars in cash and pledges. This effort, together with other factors, makes it apparent that our church should develop a diversified stewardship program and reorganize some of its money management

operations. Frankly, I am optimistic about the potential for the work of the church if we take God and our people at their word.

It is not my intention to report extensively on the implementation of all resolutions adopted by the Synod or all work assigned to the President's office. A listing is appended to this report. Without minimizing the importance of other resolutions and the efforts put forth to carry them out, I will report now in greater detail on the implementation of the one resolution which has been the major concern of the Synod during the last two years. I refer, of course, to Resolution 3-23 concerning altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church.

In adopting Resolution 3-23 the Synod undertook a new course in church relations. Previously the Synod handled such matters at delegate conventions. While Resolution 3-23 does not say this explicitly, it does imply that the delegates two years ago felt that church fellowship had dimensions beyond those that we have dealt with in the past. It was the hope of the 1967 convention that all members of the Synod should have an opportunity to discover agreement in the doctrine of the Gospel as our representatives and commissioners

had previously done. It was the hope of the delegates that all members of the Synod would through their participation come to the conviction that they would want to assume the privileges and responsibilities of living in fellowship with members of The American Lutheran Church.

Within weeks after the convention had closed, my office launched the first steps in carrying out the responsibilities assigned to it by the convention. A special committee set up arrangements for such implementation. By November of 1967 plans had been completed for materials and representatives to carry the word of the convention to the congregations by way of the District conventions. Late in that November I presented the materials later entitled "Toward Fellowship" to a meeting of District Presidents to which also members of the Board of Directors and Council of Administrators had been invited as guests. At that time the District Presidents requested that "Toward Fellowship" be published and distributed through their offices to all pastors and congregations almost immediately and certainly in advance of almost all District conventions. Through the cooperation of the District Presidents, a minimum of one-half day of convention



Two treasured servants of the Synod —
Dr. Oliver Harms and Dr. John Herrmann

time was set aside in 1968 for the presentation and discussion of fellowship, under the leadership of synodical Vice-Presidents and men who had generally served as commissioners or members of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Simultaneously the President's office arranged with officials of The American Lutheran Church for Joint meetings at various levels. District Presidents were encouraged to invite their counterparts to District conventions. District Presidents and seminary professors met in separate conferences to discuss the subjects covered by the three essays and the "Joint Statement and Declaration" adopted by our joint commissioners. Later the District Presidents of the three participating synods met again to explore in detail any possible differences in our positions on the doctrine of the Word and with respect to diversities in practice among us. The presidents adopted a joint statement expressing their agreement, and they endorsed the substance of three sets of theses which were then sent to all pastors. In a second meeting devoted to a discussion of the doctrine of the Word and related matters, representatives of the theological faculties came to agreement in substance. At least I must report that no one at the meeting expressed any dissent.

At the insistence of the District Presidents, the President's office carefully prepared an identical report form on which they might indicate what had been done to carry out Resolution 3-23 and what our congregations and pastors found as a result of their studies and/or discussions. As I have reported earlier, these findings generally confirmed the findings of the joint commissioners and concurred in the conclusions expressed by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations and also by the delegates of the 1967 convention.

A few sentences of clarification are in place on this matter. The report form was designed to conform to the assignment made in Resolution 3-23. Everything else was excluded. It would have been improper to conduct an advance referendum or to inquire about the establishment of fellowship on a different basis than that on which we had agreed to pursue the quest for fellowship with The American Lutheran Church. Out of respect for the will of the Synod, the President's office did not seek to alter or set aside the rules of the game. Further, my reports excluded all speculation. There was no attempt to generalize. The report revealed that slightly more than one half of the Synod's congregations submitted reports to their respective District Presidents. Of those who reported, two out of three or three out of four in general said they found agreement in the doctrine of the Gospel. Of those reporting, three out of four expressed their conviction that such agreement should lead to the practice of fellowship.

These findings and a statement from the Commission on Theology and Church Relations were presented to the District Presidents. There was no attempt to ignore the fact that the findings also pointed to diversities

among us, especially in practice. These diversities had been noted already by our commissioners in their "Joint Statement and Declaration." Discussions by the District Presidents reflected differing judgments whether or not such diversities ought to be considered divisive of fellowship among Lutherans. After extended conversation the majority of the Council of Presidents concurred in the recommendation which is presented to this convention in accordance with the final directive of Resolution 3-23.

In summary, the recommendation asks this convention to do what the church alone can do and what the church has wisely agreed long ago to do only in convention, that is, to declare its readiness to live in altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church. Consistent with our past practice and also in harmony with the Synod's constitutional relation to its members, the recommendation respects the consciences of those who believe that they personally have insufficient doctrinal agreement to practice church fellowship, at least with some members of The American Lutheran Church. Finally, the recommendation asks the Synod to accept the impulse of the Gospel to continue the quest for unity especially by working to resolve whatever diversities might still exist between or among us.

The President's office will not seek to influence this convention on this matter. In fact, the President's office rejects the charge that undue influence has been exerted in support of fellowship in the past two years. I remind you that the President's office was directed by Resolution 3-23 to "make arrangements for promoting the widest possible mutual recognition of the doctrinal consensus and its implications for church fellowship among the entire membership of the Synod."

When charges of unfairness were raised and when distortions were published, it became necessary to put forth special efforts to set and to keep the record straight.

The decision before us is one of exercising sound judgment. The test to which we are put at this point is not whether we are right or wrong as much as that we can be found faithful. God has not called us to search where Christian brethren may be weak in order that we might score points against opponents where they are vulnerable. How we deal with Christians is as much a test of our commitment to be evangelical Lutherans as it is a test of their orthodoxy. Your President is not fearful. Very few have resorted to threats or have issued some sort of ultimatum. Many have said, on the contrary, that they will honor the decision that you make here on their behalf. They will not permit us to be divided over anything less than the doctrine of the Gospel. We can act in confidence as we proceed on this basis. God is present among us, and God will sustain us in our pledge to the Gospel. When we have acted on the basis of trust in His grace, then the decision we make will be His decision.

By explicit direction of the Synod the President's

office has also been involved in other areas of church relations. With regret I must announce that both the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod have declined the invitations you wanted me to extend, as the resolution itself says, "with a view to removing the causes of misunderstanding and separation." Both synods, however, have accepted invitations to attend this convention as observers.

All of us are grateful that Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the Lutheran Church in America, prior to his death agreed to participate in informal discussions in which our two church bodies might explain their respective approaches to the quest for Lutheran unity and also explain the rationale for such positions. By convention action, the Lutheran Church in America approved his decision. Dr. Robert J. Marshall, the current president of the Lutheran Church in America, has graciously agreed to continue our discussions, and they have continued to be fruitful.

It was my privilege to pursue a strong mutual desire to explore the possibility of fellowship relations with the Lutheran Church of Australia. As you recall, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod formerly had such relations with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia, one of two synods which formed the present Lutheran Church of Australia by merger in 1966. We are honored that Dr. Max Lohe has come at our invitation to extend greetings to our Synod later during this convention.

As a result, in part at least, of activity by the President's office, recommendations are being channeled to this convention by way of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for pursuing Lutheran unity in Canada. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada is represented at this convention by Dr. Karl Hofeld, and the Lutheran Council in Canada is being represented by Dr. Elmer Truesch.

As in the past, the President's office has maintained contact with Lutheran and non-Lutheran churches and church associations, both here and abroad. Considerable effort has been extended on behalf of the Synod as a participating body in the Lutheran Council in the U.S.A. The Synod's *Handbook* asks that our representatives to the Council report to the Synod. Since Dr. C. Thomas Spitz will present a report orally and in writing and since items that call for your attention are being presented through other channels, it should not be necessary for me to repeat this information to you here. You should know, however, that the presidents of the participating bodies in the Council have already acted to initiate a careful assessment and to prepare appropriate recommendations concerning the present state and future possibilities of cooperative efforts among Lutherans in this country.

While there are no specific instructions to the President's office to represent the church to the public, some contacts have been maintained, especially with branches of government. The prudent management of the church's business in the best interest of the church and those whom we are called to serve requires con-

tacts with a growing number and variety of institutions and interests. Without such contacts it is not possible to know or to understand fully the nature of the changing world in which we are at work. Without such contacts we cannot make our church and her mission known and understood. In fact, such contacts have become increasingly helpful in doing our job better.

There is no justification for making this report excessively long or detailed. I have extended my remarks on certain points only because I have sensed considerable misinformation and misinterpretation to be prevalent. What I have said in this report is not designed to be a vindication of my conduct or even a justification for it. You have come here to hear. My report, like my administration and like the chairing of this convention, will seek to make it possible for you to hear and to judge calmly and responsibly. Let me assure you that it will not be necessary for coaching sessions, telephone networks, and private arrangements to make this convention function properly. We trust God still has an abiding interest in our church. We need never fear the outcome when we have rejected all else to contend for the Gospel with nothing but grace on our lips and in our hearts. God has a great cause, and He has shaped us into a great church body to help achieve that cause. We shall assure its greatness by making ourselves servants to His Gospel, both His greatest glory and our greatest glory.

APPENDIX A

1967 Convention Resolutions Assigned to and Carried Out by President's Office

- 1-03 Uniform methods of membership transfer
- 1-19 Relationship of Commission on Mission and Ministry
- 2-24 Doctrinal Review
- 2-26 Christian discipline in the Synod
- 2-28 Initiate studies on abortion, sterilization
- 3-02 Invite Lutheran bodies in America to discussions
- 3-03 Send observers to meetings of churches and church associations
- 3-05 Agree to fixed Easter date
- 3-23 Altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church
- 3-24 Invitation to Lutheran Church of Australia
- 4-37 Announce vote of confidence in Board of Directors and fiscal officers
- 5-17 Implement *Handbook* change 1.24
- 5-29 Alter restrictive membership clauses in congregational constitutions
- 8-01 Set aside May 26, 1968, for observances of Walther League's 75th anniversary
- 9-14 Communicate convention statement on war and peace to congregations
- 14-01 Proclaim third Sunday in October annually as Layman's Sunday

APPENDIX B**District President Changes, 1965—1969**

Atlantic District—Karl F. Graesser to Rudolph P. F. Ressmeyer in 1968
 Colorado District—Walter A. Enge to Waldemar E. Meyer in 1966
 Eastern District—Gustav M. Karkau to Herman R. Frincke in 1966
 Northern Illinois District—Erwin L. Paul to Edmund H. Happel in 1966
 Southern Illinois District—Alfred M. Buls to H. F. Neunaber in 1967
 Iowa District West—G. W. Lobeck to Ellis Nieting in 1966
 Michigan District—W. Harry Krieger to Edwin C. Weber in 1965
 Western District—Kurt W. Biel to Wilbert E. Griesse and Herman C. Scherer in 1966
 Minnesota South District—E. H. Stahlke to Martin W. Lieske in 1966
 Montana District—Paul M. Freiburger to R. J. Droe-gemueller in 1966 to George F. Wollenburg in 1969
 North Dakota District—Harold Huber to John D. Fritz in 1965 to Alwin Reimnitz in 1967
 Ohio District—Ottomar Krueger to Paul G. Single in 1966 to Edgar Luecke in 1969
 South Dakota District—E. O. Luessenhop to Leonard Eberhard in 1968

Southeastern District—William H. Kohn to Martin C. Poch in 1967
 Alberta and British Columbia District—Alfred F. Miller to George Rode in 1966

APPENDIX C**Departed Workers of Past Biennium***Former Synodical President*

John W. Behnken

Former District Presidents

Albert C. Bernthal	Gustav W. Lobeck
Arthur C. Brohm	Armand E. Mueller
Karl F. Graesser	Emil F. Mueller
M. Theodore Hoemann	Gotthold H. Smukal
Otto H. Hoyer	Martin Walker

Professors and Former Professors

Edward L. Brockmann	Frank C. Lankenau
George Dolak	Arnold Pennekamp
Elmer F. Fiebig	E. G. Richard Siebert
Walter A. Hansen	Otto E. Sohn

Others

Otto H. J. Brauer	Arnold H. Semmann
Louis H. J. Henze	Otto C. Schroeder



PRESIDENT'S ACCEPTANCE STATEMENT

MR. CHAIRMAN AND BRETHREN:

In the belief that through the vote of this convention God has called me to the presidency of our church, I feel that I have no choice but to accept. I do so with a realization of my frailties and of my constant need of God's grace and your prayers.

Let us all pray God to unite our church and to give us strength that we may serve Him in faithfulness, joy, and mutual love and respect.

J. A. O. PREUS

Dr. J. A. O. Preus, newly elected president of the Synod



Newly elected officers of the Synod: Dr. Milton Carpenter, St. Louis, treasurer; Dr. Herbert Mueller, Dundee, Ill., secretary; Dr. Theodore F. Nickel, Chicago, second vice-president; Dr. Roland P. Wiederaenders, first vice-president; Dr. J. A. O. Preus, Springfield, Ill., president; Dr. Victor L. Behnken, Anaheim, Calif., third vice-president; Dr. Edwin C. Weber, Fraser, Mich., fourth vice-president; and Dr. Paul W. Streufert, Rocky River, Ohio, fifth vice-president

CONVENTION SERMON

Grace be with you all. Amen.

Will you pray with me and for me?

O Lord, open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law. And then, when Thou hast opened my eyes, then, O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. Amen.

ESTEEMED PRESIDENT AND REVEREND CLERGY, HONORED DELEGATES AND FRIENDS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF OUR LORD, MEMBERS OF THE HOLY FAMILY:

The burden of my message to you in this opening service of our convention is the plea contained in these few words:

AT DENVER—FOCUS ON THE CITY BEYOND

I was led to this thought as I searched the edifying Word of God, looking for some passage of God's communication of ideas to His ancient people that He might want us to share with one another in this holy hour. This plea is directed to every delegate, layman, lay woman, teacher, pastor, and teen-ager, and to the little boys and girls who are at this service. *At Denver—focus on the city beyond.* Basic to this plea are the three short verses in Hebrews 11 where the holy writer gives us a description of Abraham, the father of the faithful. Hebrews 11:8-10 reads as follows:

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

We Tremble

As I attempt to share these words of Scripture with you, I should like to point out first of all that if we at Denver focus on the city beyond, then we will give to our God the obedience of faith. But before I expand on this thought I cannot hide from you the fact that in this moment I am trembling. I tremble as I behold this impressive scene at Red Rocks, the majestic mountains surrounding us, the color of the rocks fascinating us, many thousands of worshipers occupying the seats of this amphitheater, all of them making ready to listen to God. Who can be God's spokesman at a moment like this? I tremble.

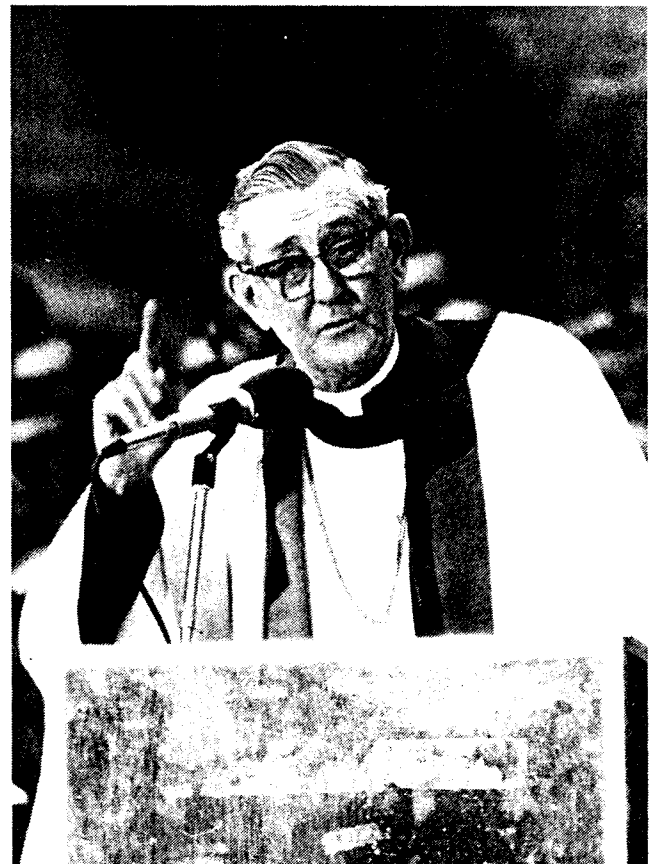
There is another reason why I am trembling. It is because I opened my forwarded mail this morning. Although I thought it would not be too necessary, since this is for some of us a partial vacation, I did open one letter that had on it an airmail stamp from central Europe. I looked at the letter and I trembled some more. The writer said: "The president and vice-presidents of the Missouri Synod have studied theology, but they are no theologians." Then I trembled.

Is there a theologian in the house? I ask it in all sincerity. Perhaps never in my life have I wanted to exchange places with him more than at this moment. How I wish that he were standing where I am standing

with my quaking heart, and I would be sitting in utter tranquility where he is sitting! In a moment like this the Holy Spirit whispers to us: "I'll give wisdom to My people." God could send us some messenger from the great beyond, maybe Gabriel, maybe Michael. He could bring us the gift we so much desire at this convention: wisdom to replace our muddled theological thinking, rest to replace the turmoil of our world. He could bring us words that would bring harmony into our disunity. We need some voice from the great beyond that would bring confidence to replace suspicion and distrust among us, truth to replace our errors, and faith to replace our doubts. Such a one would be heaven's gift to this convention of the Missouri Synod while it is standing at the crossroads.

At this moment I hear the Holy Spirit whisper to me: "Quit stalling and get down to business! Preach the Word! Preach My Word!" So shall it be.

From your vantage point in this awe-inspiring setting of Red Rocks, many of you can see in the distance that delightful city of Denver, which has been such a remarkable host to us all. For two years now the name Denver has constantly been in the thoughts of our people, not only of our leaders, but also of the men and women of our churches. Sometimes the name Denver made us tremble when we thought of the awe-



Vice-President Paul W. Streufert preaching at Red Rocks

some responsibility of the delegate. They must decide issues that may give direction to the kingdom work of our Synod for many years to come.

Problems in the Church

The issues before you delegates relate to the problems of our church. Will Denver again give to our Synod the voice of certainty about the Word of God? Will Denver help remove doctrinal unrest? Will Denver help the congregations of Synod see their total ministry to the total man in his total needs? Will Denver help remove some of the lovelessness so evident in our time? Will Denver help remove the practices of some of Synod's kingmakers? The number of kingmakers has from year to year been increasing. Will Denver help the Synod stem the tide of character assassination of which we sometimes have been guilty? Will Denver help solve some of these problems?

Fellowship

Will Denver give us the answer for the problem of fellowship? The moment the dialog on fellowship begins, I'm in trouble. I'm in real trouble. I have certain convictions. They were not easy to come by, convictions reached after wrestling and struggling with one's self. Because I have such convictions, I imagine that I have a halo above my head. I look at my brother who has convictions diametrically opposed to mine, and I imagine he is starting to grow horns. The tragic thing is that my brother is also in trouble. With his convictions he imagines he has the halo and I have the horns. When I met him this morning I was sure he was looking for the outgrowth of horns on my forehead. People, if we are not careful in Denver, this convention will go down in the memory books of our young people as the convention of the horns and the haloes. Let's make sure we understand that God put both of us, my brother and me, with our opposing convictions, into the world for such a time as this.

Problems in the World

If these problems and issues are not enough to make our delegates tremble, our present world has a few more problems to throw at us. The basic problem of our world is man's ignorance of his God and man's ignorance of God's Gospel of forgiveness through the redemptive sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. Will Denver help us solve the problem of getting this message out? Will Denver help us solve the problem of world hunger—hunger even here in the good old U. S. A., with its affluent society? Will Denver help solve the problem of moral decay in our nation? Will it help solve the problem of war? Will it help solve the problem of that diabolical attitude of supposedly Christian people toward minorities that we call racism? Oh, Denver, we are looking to you for a lot of answers! We are looking to you to let the voice of God motivate us to help solve the problems of our world. These are the things that make us tremble as we stand before you.

With Confidence

But while we tremble, God says to us: "Be still and know that I am God — not you!" And so, knowing that God is still in the saddle, we have come to Denver with high hopes and confidence, or as the choir sang it out in its anthem a moment ago, "with high delight." We have come with the confidence that the Lord will direct His people to do His will, with confidence that God's people will want to do His will, with confidence that God by His Spirit will help us decide issues on the basis of His Word of authority and not on the basis of the deductions of smart people. God will not forsake us. This is His promise. In His mercy He will take us by the hand and lead us. If we but let the Spirit of God speak to us out of His unchanging Word, then we will be tools in the hand of our majestic God by which He will rebuild, reshape, reconstruct our tottering society and the world about us.

The Obedience of Faith

This is after all the crucial issue at Denver. Will we let God's Spirit guide us, instruct us, motivate us, and revitalize us? If that happens, then Denver still has the potential of being remembered with joy by our children whom we have invited to be our guests at this convention. If that happens, that the Holy Spirit is the guiding power of this convention, then the now generation in its tomorrows will not speak of Denver in terms like "Armageddon." They will speak of Denver as one of the garden spots of God where truth and faith and love blossomed and came to fruition in all the fruits of the Spirit. At Denver, our young people will say, we recaptured the obedience of faith.

Is all this not precisely what the holy writer says about Abraham? "By faith Abraham obeyed." God said to him: "Abraham, get ready and start moving. I will tell you where you are to go." Abraham did not know his destiny. God gave him no road map. He got ready and he went. Brother, that takes faith, to receive that kind of briefing and then get started.

God has always done it like this with His church. He has never spelled out the ultimate, the destiny. All He asked of His church throughout the ages was to give Him the obedience of faith, to follow when He called, leaving the destiny to Him.

Is this not what we need at this convention — a willingness to listen when God calls, a willingness to follow God's leading, even though we may not know, like Abraham, the goal to which God leads us? Do you know how God wants to use you delegates at this convention? Have you opened the window of God's council chamber and peeked over God's shoulder to look at the plans of God for His church and the blueprints for the destiny of His people? Have you all the answers? I don't have them, and I am quite certain you don't have them either. God has the answers, and I can trust Him. I am prompted to give Him the obedience of faith by the promises in His Word.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that every dele-

gate give close attention to that which is primary at this convention, "The Edifying Word." When we are being led into the mysteries of that Word under the guidance of a competent leader, don't go out and get a smoke, or take a recess.

The Thrust of Judgment

That Word will edify us because it has a triple thrust. The first thrust, and make no mistake about it, is the thrust of judgment. That Word is God's call to repentance. It blasts the pride of man by showing him his lost condition under sin. What is man before his God? Man is a rebel in spite of all his scientific achievements and his cultural attainments. He is still God's great disappointment. The edifying Word is a word of judgment. Its function is to bring proud man to his knees.

I wonder whether the very physical framework in which our service is held tonight ought not remind us of this thrust of the edifying Word, the thrust of judgment. Will you people on my right look at those immense rocks behind you? Turn around and look at them. And you people on my left, look at the rocks on your side. Impressive!

While you are looking at those rocks I want to tell you what St. John the Divine said in the last book of the Bible about the moment when all history will find its terminal point on the Day of Judgment. "The heavens will be rolled up like a scroll," says John. The Son of Man will be coming in the clouds of heaven, the mountains and islands will in the great earthquake be moved out of their places; "and the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the chief captains, the slaves, and the free men will hide in the dens and rocks of the mountains" (see Rev. 6:15). And then, John tells us, they will hear the cry of the damned. It might happen right here at Red Rocks. It is wholly within the range of possibility that these rocks will still be standing on the day when Gabriel blows his horn to usher in the Day of Judgment. The cry will go up from the holes in these rocks: "Oh, you mountains, fall on us! Oh, you hills, cover us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits upon the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" (See v. 16.)

How can the church become a spiritual prostitute and no longer preach with that voice of judgment and call men to repentance? God wants to shake up our world, shake us out of our lethargy. He wants to bring us to our knees by His Word and make us repent.

The Thrust of Love

But, oh, that second thrust of the edifying Word! It is the thrust of love. The written Word brings me the message about the incarnate Word, the Word made flesh. Without that written Word I would know nothing about the incarnate Word, the Christ. It tells me a story of love that only heaven could have authored. God used a fallible woman, a virgin, to produce an infallible, incarnate Word. And He used fallible men to produce an infallible record about the Word made flesh.

You ask, "Who can this be?" Need you ask it and need I ask it? Yes, I need to ask it if I do not know Him. But when my God tells me who this is, I need ask no more. His name is Jesus Christ.

Who is He? "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). He is the majestic power that called this universe into being. This universe belongs to Jesus Christ. I didn't say that. This Book, which makes no mistake about Him, spells it out for us.

Who can this be? "When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the Law, to redeem them that were under the Law" (Gal. 4:4-5). Who is He? You have the answer! He is the world's only Redeemer. We say with the people of Sychar, "We know that this is indeed the Messiah [the *Christos*], the Savior of the world." (John 4:42)

Like Abraham, we believe God when He speaks to us in His promises. "By grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8-9). Who can this be? You still ask it? He is the One we have accepted by faith as our Redeemer. He is the world's Savior, the only one God will send. If this convention is walking with Abraham, then it is walking the road of faith, faith in Jesus Christ. Without Christ — no hope, no salvation. If this is not what the delegates will find as they study the edifying Word with its thrust of love, then we had better close shop tonight and all of us delegates go home before the convention opens. We need again the obedience of faith, accepting His Word with its thrust of love.

Don't talk to me about the "misplaced preoccupation with the verbalized form of the Gospel," of which our Synod allegedly has been guilty. Look at the record. The evangelists verbalized it. Peter and Paul verbalized it. The Gospel has to be communicated. It has to be told, or there is no Gospel at all.

The Thrust of Action

The beauty of this verbalized Gospel is that it carries with it the thrust of action. This Word edifies, because it activates the converted sinner who has found the Savior to live his faith. Isn't that what the holy writer meant to say about Abraham? He didn't only follow the call that ultimately led him to the land of milk and honey. By faith Abraham *sojourned*, he lived, in the land of promise. Turn that around. His living was an expression of his faith. Every day of his life, as he focused on the great city he had not yet seen, he lived his faith in love. While he kept his eyes focused on the city beyond, faith was the dynamic of his life. It drove him to action.

Isn't this the crying need of our world? While God's people focus on the city beyond, their lives, lived in faith, touch the wounds of the world and heal them. That's what our delegates have to carry home, or they might as well have stayed home. You, the delegates — laymen, teachers, pastors, young people — must go

home with the determination that your faith in Christ will be the spark plug that starts things moving in your congregation, in your circuit, in your District, in your institutions of higher learning.

You ask, "What can I do?" Plenty! First, keep your eye on the city that lies beyond Denver. You've been focusing on Denver long enough. Now lift your eyes away, and if you have the eyes of faith, you can see the city beyond the horizon of time and space. That's what you can do for yourself.

Second, you can set the dials of your ears on the wave length of the Word of God. God gave you two ears so that you might do a little more listening than talking. Let's listen to the edifying Word.

In the third place, you can help your congregation listen. You can help your people listen to the voices of the young people who are attending our convention. The youth has something to say to us today about their faith, about their love for Jesus, about the way they think in their time they can serve Him best. You be the spark plug in your congregation to help us of the older generation sit down and listen to youth. Furthermore, listen to the cry of the minorities in our country. You be the spark plug that helps your people sit down and listen to the needs of these people — the need to be accepted as a first-rate citizen, the needs they have in their home life, their educational life, their cultural life. You can help your people listen to the cry of the black man and of the American Indian.

In the fourth place, you can help your congregation act. When you get home, will you be the one who will start things moving in your circuit for a more aggressive evangelism campaign? Will you be the spark plug to strengthen your educational agencies? Will you be the spark plug that prompts your congregation to adopt a better stewardship program? You can be if you keep your eye focused, like Abraham, on the city that is the destiny of God's people. When you get home, you will talk to people about this convention. Tell them that you and the rest of us recaptured the obedience of faith. Tell them that you delegates determined to be like Abraham and live out your faith in love. You can be that type of dynamic delegate who will be the helper of the joy of God's people, because at Denver you focused on the city beyond.

A Word to Youth

I have just a word for you young people. You too can go home and be God's voice. Help the other young people in your congregation steer clear of that "Brylcreem" religion. Do you know what that is? That's the kind of religion which says, "A little dab'll do yah." Tell them that "a little dab" won't do. Go back home and show them there is joy in your religion. You young folks can do it if you will keep your eye on the city beyond. Don't think that God is going to wait until you are in Medicare until He will call you to the city beyond. The other day I buried a young West Point grad-

uate. He had not yet received his commission. In the few moments of a joyride the week before graduation, his car hit a bridge abutment. Then we buried him. God came quickly. This young man thought he had lots of time. He thought he was going to grow old in the service of his country. You young people, remember such young men who already lie under the soil because God called early.

A Word to Scholars

May I say a word to you scholars and theologians. May we as a convention beg of you to keep your eyes on the city beyond. You don't have to borrow your theology any more from Heidelberg than you do from Oberursel, or from Union Seminary than you do from Fordham University. Why don't you go to headquarters? And what's headquarters? Your Holy Bible. That's the kind of scholarship we need in our age, the kind of scholarship that is ultrabright. Ultrabright scholarship recognizes in this Book its text appeal. If a text doesn't have any appeal for you, then leave it alone. This type of scholarship realizes that it is helping young men gain the tools for the study of Scripture, ever learning how to dig into the Word. If you as a Christian scholar show high respect and high delight in the Word of our living God, don't forget that these young men will be influenced by your attitude. They will drink it in and by their obedience to the Word become the benefactors of the world. And you will be the one who has prepared them. The church of tomorrow will thank God that He sent a scholar like you for such a time as this.

Finis

We come to the close. If at Denver in the sessions of the next days we focus on the city beyond, the New Jerusalem, and remember at what a price that city with its joy and glory was purchased for us — the price of the Son of God dying on a cross, His blood being shed innocently, that I the guilty one might live forever — then our discussions and decisions will have a God-pleasing foundation. If at Denver we give to our God the obedience of faith as did Abraham, then the problems of our world and of our church will find some solutions. If at Denver we remember the words of our Lord to His own, "These things have I said to you that your joy might be full," then we will hug the edifying Word with its glorious Christ to our bosom and rejoice. Let us listen to the Spirit of our God as He tries to lead us into action as the church moves forward. At the end of time He will lead us to the city beyond, where we shall be at His side forevermore.

If in some way this service tonight, with its Scripture readings, its prayers, its hymns, and its message, has helped you walk with Abraham, close to God in the obedience of faith, then we say, "*Soli Deo gloria.*"

When once we have said, "*Soli Deo gloria,*" then we do not mind when men write our name — on water. Amen.

VICE-PRESIDENT PAUL W. STREUFERT, D. D.

CLOSING ADDRESS

Jesu, Juva!

Matthew 6:9 and 13

In the Name of Jesus:

The close of the convention is upon us, hence this is no time to make many words. And yet, one more word should be spoken — a word that, pray God, will enable us to leave this convention with courage, confidence, and purpose. This is that word: "Our Father in heaven, Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory."

Some delegates came to this convention with doubts and fears. Others brought with them hopes and dreams. Whether these doubts and dreams have been fulfilled or frustrated I do not know.

But this I know: The kingdom of God, to whose advancement on earth, I am sure, all here present are dedicated, will survive our convention no matter how we feel about the decisions that have been made during the past six days. "Our Father in heaven, Thine is the kingdom."

The kingdom of God is infinitely greater than the Denver convention, the resolutions we have here passed, and how we feel at this moment. The kingdom of God is God's creation, and God is its protector and preserver. Far beyond everything we see and say and do as churchmen, God through the power of His Spirit gently rules the hearts and lives of His people with His Word and sacraments.

Listen to the voice of God speaking through His apostle: "The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal: the Lord knoweth them that are His" (2 Tim. 2:19). God has built and continues to build His kingdom on a solid rock, the Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. That foundation is indestructible. It carries this guarantee of permanence: "The Lord knoweth them that are His." He has set them free from the dominion of Satan, sin, death, and hell. In love He has brought them to faith in Jesus Christ their Savior. Through the power of His Spirit He will keep them steadfast to the end. "This is most certainly true!"

"Our Father in heaven, Thine is the kingdom!" This is the message we are to remember in faith as we leave the Denver convention. This is the assurance we are to take home with us. This is the message with which we are to edify God's saints in the circle of our congregations. This is the good news we are to share in our communities and proclaim for the whole world to hear and believe.

"Thine is the kingdom," not ours — and the foundation stands as sure as "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever."

Many resolutions were passed during the six days of convention — resolutions dealing not only with church relations and doctrinal matters but also with missions, the training of pastors, teachers, and deaconesses, parish and lay workers, parish education, young people's work, evangelism, stewardship, and social ministries. These

are not idle resolutions. Each one is directly related to the wondrous truth that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself." Each one is studded with blessed opportunities and charged with imperatives. Of course, these resolutions have little significance or value until they are carried out by us, the members of the Synod. But is it possible to carry them out? Where shall we begin?

To carry out these resolutions, we need, first of all, in the fear and love of God, to close ranks and work together. We need to respect one another as members of God's holy family even as God in Christ accepts us as His dear children. We need to repent of the wrong we do and confess our sins one to another, "for God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble" (James 4:6). We need to forgive one another and be forgiven by one another even as God daily forgives us.

Reflecting God's love for us, we need in love to bear one another's burdens. We need to be both hearers and doers of God's Word and will. We need to live and work in a full understanding of the Savior's Word, "As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you." But where will we find the willingness of heart and the strength of hand thus to work together towards the achievement of the goals that we have set for ourselves during the convention?

Listen again to the eternal Word: "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the



First Vice-President Roland P. Wiederaenders

power may be of God and not of us" (2 Cor. 4:7). In Today's English Version this passage reads: "We who have this spiritual treasure are like common clay pots, to show that the supreme power belongs to God, not to us."

Of ourselves and in ourselves we will not find the willingness of heart and the power to unite as brethren in doing the work that God would have our Synod do during the next biennium. The "clay pots" to which the apostle Paul likens us are of themselves empty. Therefore, how good it is to know that "the supreme power belongs to God, not to us!" God alone can supply the power that enables us to accomplish His purposes. And the power He supplies resides in the Gospel and the sacraments. This is the spiritual treasure God has given us. Always it is the power of this spiritual treasure that unites men, women, and children under the gracious rule of Christ, whether that be in New Guinea, in the Philippines, in Nigeria, in India, or in the cities and plains, the ghettos and suburbs of America.

That's something for us to take home and share with our fellow members of the Synod in our congregations. Of ourselves, without the power of the Gospel, we have neither the willingness nor the power to unite as brethren and do the work of the kingdom that God has committed to us. But we are not in this work of and by ourselves. "Our Father in heaven, Thine is the kingdom and the power."

The business sessions of this convention have come to an end, but the business of the convention remains unfinished until we with joyful hearts give due praise, honor, and adoration to God before we return to our homes, our communities, and our congregations.

Truly, great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

His judgments are unsearchable and His ways past finding out. Always, even in a world tortured by revolution, rebellion, and war, by suspicion and hatred, He is always "the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquities and transgression and sin" (Ex. 34:6-7). Though the thunder of His Law ever calls men to repentance, His Gospel invitation ever remains: "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Is. 1:18). "Obey My voice," says God "and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people." (Jer. 7:23)

At the close of the convention we need to pray: "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory, for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake" (Ps. 115:1). Indeed, we need to do more than give glory to God with our lips. "Let your light so shine before men," says Jesus, "that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:16)

Let people see how bright the light of God's love for us shines through us in our love for one another and our love for all men, especially those who need the warmth of our affection, our concern, and our care. Then the resolutions we passed during this convention will become meaningful; then we shall have the willingness of heart and the power to carry them out; then our Father in heaven will be glorified, and our lives will be a perpetual doxology: "Thine, O Father in heaven, is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen."

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT R. P. WIEDERAENDERS, D. D.

THE DOCTRINAL ESSAY

The Edifying Word

I

The Word of God Builds the Church

LESSON: MATTHEW 16:13-19

What do we, the delegates, advisers, and friends of this convention, want at this hour?

We want good judgment for making the decisions on the calendar of business. We want good tempers as we debate the issues that are before us. More than that: We want our fellow Christians back in our home congregations to share our decisions. We want to plan programs which are not merely agreed to by people in this room but supported by Christians all over the world.

Most of all, when we honestly face what we must do here, we want help to do the will of God. We employ human language and exercise human reason and hope to raise human dollars. But really it's God we need, God to give us the right words and direct our reason and give us and the folks at home the will first to give themselves to God.

This convention holds before it the way by which God proposes to invade our reason and move our hearts to do His will. The Bible terms that way of God the edifying Word, the Word of God that works His will and gives His power to build His church.

A

We shall not be able to understand how the Word of God works among us until we know who we are. We are the church of God in this place. In the Bible the word for "church" means literally "those who are at calling." The church is composed of people whom God has called to be His people and to do His will. He has called them out of the mass of society to be different, to belong to Him and to serve His purpose (2 Tim. 1:8-10). That purpose is in the first place that they share with each other the same call with which He called them, that they cause that call to beat on the ears and hearts of many others. Five years ago we called this God's mission, God's mission first to the church and then God's mission of the church to the world.

Think what this call is. As men are born into the world, Jesus says, they are flesh, incapable of doing the will of God without the life of God at work in them (John 3:5-6). They can think and act, plan and strive. But the life within them is not the life of God Himself. This is why we see so much hostility and cruelty, loneliness and self-seeking where we ought to see kindness, help and peace.

This situation is so dreadful because it exists in people whom God has made and whom He loves with an everlasting love. God Himself moves to the rescue. He sent His own Son into the world to reclaim these derelicts, this human wreckage that we are by birth. He did it by giving His own Son into the world as a man. He lived among men, shared their work and play,

felt both their companionship and their hostility, and finally died a dreadful death at the hands of the religious leaders of His own people. He did this because God sent Him, He was God's Messiah, He was carrying out God's plan.

When this work of His is put into words, we have the call that summons men into the church of God. That work of Christ is not only a story but an invitation and a power. It is not only drama of God's love on a screen or in a book but God's love in action toward you and me. That invitation can turn the human heart from the death of its disregard for God into faith, from the coldness of its self-love into concern for others.

The church is the people who have experienced that call and heeded it; but more — God has put into the charge of His church the task of keeping that call coming to others. The people of the church need that call again and again. The world with its death and hate surrounds and infects us day by day. The call of God works the new life in the heart, but the call of world and Satan erodes it and competes with it. The heavenly Father gathers His people into families, into gathered companies in whom His life and will is on top, so that they keep His call coming to one another and thwart the will of the flesh and nurture the life of God. (Eph. 2:1-10; 4:1-16)



Dr. Richard R. Caemmerer Sr.

By "life" understand nothing less than that God is alive in you. In the plan of God it is not enough that man has muscle and nerves and the capacity for growth and learning and science and art. But God plants into the human heart the gift of the very life of God. God takes charge of the impulses and desires, the aims and ambitions of the inner self through Jesus Christ. That life of God does not exist separately from the body. But neither is the body to exist separately from that life of God. (John 17:8)

We look forward to having that life of God forever, and we speak a great deal of the resurrection of the body to life everlasting at the Last Day. But God is concerned that we have and use that life already now. The world surrounds us with its need and shame. The Christian company has its weak members as well as the strong. Now is the time for every cell and grouping of Christian people to sustain each other for their common task. Jesus and His atoning work is food for that nurture. (John 6:35-40)

As Jesus spoke with His disciples in the lesson for today, He put at the heart of that nurture of God's kind of life and at the heart of the existence of Christ's church the forgiveness of sins. God Himself has to reach out to men who have rejected Him, to gather them into His church, to build His church, and to make it fruitful.

B

In His great word to St. Peter Jesus said that He would build His church. There we have the Word that turns our words at this moment from pious talk into fact and action. There we have the edifying Word. This is God's action going on among us at this moment, and we can carry it on in a great chain reaction back into our parishes and out into our world. The heart of the story is that God forgives sins.

The first step in that process is that Jesus Christ, the Sent One, the Son of the living God, comes into the world and bears our sins on the cross. That is God's way of not holding our waywardness and rebellion against us. Think of this personally, involving yourself and the members of your family and church, your block, your factory and farm. God's love comes flooding out over the world in Christ (2 Cor. 5:18-21). Even though human sin is great, God's love in Christ is greater.

The second step in the forgiveness of sins is people, the people of the church, says Jesus. He tells St. Peter that His church will not decay and give way, the powers of the opponent of God will not win out over the church. That means that our church work is a going concern; we need not fear bankruptcy. What makes the church work, the way by which He builds His church, Jesus says, is people. He builds it on Peter, He says, and St. Paul adds that He builds it on all of the apostles and in the course of generations on every one of us, wherever we may be. (Eph. 2:20-22)

Jesus does this job of building not because Peter or we are such wonderful people, of spotless faith and life; Peter himself slipped. But Christ builds His church on

people as these people bring God's forgiveness of sins to men. The task of bringing that forgiveness to people is like a key, Jesus says, which opens the kingdom of heaven, the rule of God in the human heart, to people. As Christ's men do this work, it is as though He did it. As Christ's people fail to do this work, it will not get done. This is the sober lesson of Matthew 16.

C

We are gathered in business of the utmost seriousness. The church is God's building. It is Christ who builds His church.

What is this Word through which Christ builds the church? We have already been speaking it to one another. We have not used the term "Word" but the term "Call." It comes through the forgiveness of sins straight from God. In these mornings we are going to talk about the Word that builds the church, and pray that it confronts and moves us.

The Word that builds the church is Jesus Christ Himself. "I will build My church," He said. This means that we have to be very sure in our minds what we mean by the Word.

We usually employ the term to denote the Bible, because it is the book which God has given us. Its authors were inspired by His Spirit; its content and very expression is for our profit. Much of the energy of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has been devoted to proclaiming and defending this important fact, that God has given us the Bible. Just as every preacher and teacher of our Synod is pledged to do, I shall draw these morning talks exclusively from the Bible.

But it is remarkable to note that the Bible itself saves the term "Word of God" for God's own action through Jesus Christ.

There are two such great actions. One is that God made the world and that He preserves and protects it. He does it through Christ. "All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). "In these last days He has spoken to us by a Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom He also created the world . . . upholding the universe by His Word of power" (Heb. 1:2-3). "In Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him" (Col. 1:16). "He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." (V. 17)

When we hold the new baby or see the blossoms of springtime and the spreading harvest of autumn, when we scan the stars at midnight and follow the astronauts exploring space, when we peer into the mechanism of the atom or ponder the intricacy of the human brain and thrill to beauty, we remember that Jesus Christ is the Word of God by which all have come into being and are kept together, and all are there to serve His purpose.

The other great action of the Word of God is that He sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world to put the human being back on the track of doing God's will. "He

is the Head of the body, the church; He is the Beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross" (Col. 1:18-20). "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father." (John 1:14)

Our day is much impressed with the first of these actions. The world of nature is giving up its secrets to man more rapidly than in any other period of history, and that is good. What is not so good is that the world can't see that all of this is under the control and for the purposes of God through Christ. Therefore Christ, the saving Word, has to come to men just as much as Christ the creating or procreating or enlightening Word.

The apostle John said that even though all things had been made by Jesus, it was still important for Him to come into the world so that people might have light and see the purposes of God in their lives. (John 1:9-13)

Church people become impatient at times with their work in a day of big business, big government, big science. Our talk about God seems to involve so much that can't be seen and makes little sense to people outside of the church and sometimes not enough to ourselves.

But don't be fooled. We are one of the very few institutions on earth that deals with the earth's most precious commodity: people. The business of the church is always the business by and for the people of God and the people of the world. As we spend our time here in business and sociability and parliamentary procedures, let's not get our mind off the main track: As members of the church of God we are in the business of sustaining our fellow Christians in their life with God and from God, for God, through the edifying Word.

Church people reproach themselves because in their concern for people they sometimes talk more about the heaven that is to come than face up to needs that people have right now. Our Synod has sometimes been labeled a middle-class church, bent inward upon itself away from the people of wealth and influence at one end of the spectrum of life and from the working classes and the poor at the other end.

This is biting criticism indeed. But we don't solve our problem by going out of business. If we are to be people to whom the Word and through whom the Word of Christ comes, we have to be at work sounding it to one another, never as the end of the job but always as the beginning of it. The Word has to send us marching one with another out into the responsibilities and the perils of life. Our Lord prayed to the Father before His death not to remove us from the trials of life but to keep us mindful of the cheer that comes in knowing that He overcame the world. The way that He Himself designed for keeping that supply of cheer going is you and I, members of the church and body of Christ, so closely attached to each other that we can provide and pass on the great good Word of power that Jesus Christ

Himself is and has for us as members of His body. (John 16:33)

Our time tends to sneer at the old words which the church uses. It isn't only youth which gets impatient with the old words and the old ways. Sophisticated churchmen shake their heads over the impotence and weakness of the old words of worship, the old Gospel of God, the old words of the Bible.

Don't let it worry you. For Christ the Word is always more than the words through which we bring Him to one another. This doesn't mean that we give up using the words. The words of the Bible, and all the ways in speech and acts by which we translate their language into our own, are precious. But they are that because they are the way by which Jesus Christ Himself stands up before the mind's eye as Lord and Savior, one who died on the cross for our sins and rose again so that we might have strength, courage, persistence in faith right out until death.

That means that the words that we use toward one another as we try to buoy up each other's spirits or give each other counsel have to be more than words of good cheer in general or good advice. But they have to be words that make us think of Jesus Christ as God's gift to us, the gift by which our sins are forgiven and the Holy Spirit can put us on the track again of doing what God places us in the world to do. They are the same words which did the job in us first (Col. 3:12-17). This is what the Holy Spirit does, Jesus says, that He helps us to remember everything that Jesus said and did. (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:14)

What are the thoughts that brace you up in a moment of worry or anxiety or grief? What are the thoughts that you found so rich with meaning as you worshiped with fellow Christians in your church or home? Perhaps you say that there haven't been very many of them? Well, keep on thinking; when did the light shine in your mind through the darkness, when did you realize that God was talking to you for your courage and your faith? And when you say, "It was when I remembered that God loves me because of Jesus Christ," then you have the words that are going to be what you and your associates say today in this convention and in the years to come out in the work of God's church.

Even as we use the Bible, we are going to have to follow the same rule, the method which Jesus Himself advised (John 5:37-39), namely to look for what the Bible says about Jesus, to view the Bible as powerful because it makes wise to salvation by faith which is in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:14-17). Then we can recommend the precious words of the Bible to each other because we ourselves have discovered that they bring Christ to us. This is what our Lord called proclaiming the Good News right out of Scripture and His death and resurrection, not just as repeaters or as sound systems but as witnesses, as people who ourselves have discovered that Jesus Christ is God's Word to us for this world and for the life to come. (Luke 24:44-48)

Do you hear those keys jingling? Fifteen hundred men are pulling them out of their pockets, ready to un-

lock a most important door for each other to walk through. They don't jingle when they are unused in the dark pocket. But they have a most cheerful sound as men get them out to use them, the keys to the kingdom of heaven, the good word which says: "Just think, God through Jesus Christ has forgiven our sins, and we have a new day to put to work for Him; let's be on our way."

II

The Word of God Builds Christian Congregations

LESSON: EPHESIANS 4:11-16

We are grateful for the meaning that the Lord Jesus has put into the church and which our lesson from the Epistle to the Ephesians reinforces: The church is people who build up each other's faith as they speak the Word of God's forgiveness to one another, protect each other from false doctrine, and enable one another to move out into life doing the will of God.

A

This morning we focus on the group that we are accustomed to call our church, namely our congregation. In the New Testament that was the body which Christians first called the church, namely the Christians in a given locality who came together to strengthen each other's faith.

That is how we still use the term "church." My church is my congregation. True, my family is the church in my house. My congregation is a number of families living in the same locality and bound together by the same desire to serve each other's faith and life and sustain one another for the will and work of God.

Twice in my life I have sat in a private home at the first meeting of a number of people who were founding a Christian congregation. Perhaps many of you have had the same experience. It was a solemn moment. As time went on, other individuals and families joined the circle, and a larger room had to be provided and ultimately a church building. Those people were bound together by the strong tie of purpose: Let's do for one another what has to be done in order to sustain ourselves in faith for love.

As time goes on, a congregation of Christians may find this initial will and purpose becoming weak. Babies and other youngsters join the group, and they have to learn from scratch. Some newcomers are there not so much because of Christian purpose as for reasons of simple friendship and sociability. We often wonder why later members don't have the same enthusiasm for the church and the congregation that we had when we first started it. In the larger areas or the countryside some members move to a distant location and take up membership in other congregations or try to come from a distance to attend at least the services of worship. Their membership, good as it is, is hampered by the fact that they do not share the life of their fellow members around the clock all the days of the

week. We all realize that the work of preserving the faith and life of one another takes more than one hour a week in a formal service.

All of this helps us to see that what makes a Christian congregation be a church is that its people are close enough to each other to share the edifying Word. They have to be close enough to each other to respond to each other's needs and handicaps, to supply help to each other and sustain each other in waywardness or grief or anxiety. St. Paul likes to call the church in a given place the body of Christ, and the mark of the members of a healthy body is that they are connected, so that blood supply and nerve impulse can pass from one to the next. (1 Cor. 1:2-9; 12)

B

Distance isn't the only handicap for the church. St. Paul suggests that every group of Christians has in it both strong and weak. Some are weak because they are deficient in the necessities of life; they are poor or hungry. Others waver in their understanding of the Christian's faith toward God. (Rom. 15:1-2; Gal. 6:1-5)

This doesn't imply, John the seer would say, that a congregation that is wealthy is strong; it may be poor and weak and blind (Rev. 3:14-22). What makes a congregation of Christians strong is their mutual will to take care of each other, to have compassion on one another in need. The scorn of many thinkers in our time has come upon the church because congregations sometimes seem powerless to help their own members and extend help to their surrounding community.

This is the business of the church, that the strong take care of the weak. For the time is coming that a person who once had help to give may now need it from another (2 Cor. 8:14). The simplest demonstration of this is the child who needs help from his parents and then as years go on becomes the one who must care for the needy aged. St. Paul says that the person who refuses to take care of his own kinsmen is worse than an infidel and has given up the faith. (1 Tim. 5:8)

But notice what we are saying in all of this: It is the business of Christians to take care of one another. And we are saying an even more basic thing: It is the business of Christians to provide the will to have compassion toward Christians or non-Christians alike. That takes the edifying Word: the reminder of the work of Christ that not merely corrects the straying or gives help to the needy but the work of Christ that corrects the selfish heart and gives the will for compassion.

Our time is apt to get confused about what the Gospel of Christ and the work of the church really is. Something is evidently wrong when people claiming to be Christians try to help others in danger of their lives or in need of daily bread and shelter by speaking pleasantly about God's love in Christ and then turn their backs (1 John 3:16-18). This has led people to say: The Gospel is that people give bread to the hungry, that they help and heal, that they have compassion, no matter what they say.

We need Christians who will help indeed. But we need Christians discontented with giving help short of the great healing word of witness that in Jesus Christ God is Father all the way, not only feeding but forgiving. The greatest love that the Father can have for His creature is not simply that through another person He brings bread and medicine and compassion and peace but that He brings the Word of peace through Christ and the forgiveness of sins through the cross.

More than that: we need to help Christians so to help. Other fields of endeavor know this well. The huge amusement industry is there to cheer people with a bit of escape in order to send them back to their jobs somewhat refreshed. The automobile industry couldn't exist without the thousands of filling stations and service centers that supply fuel and repairs for the millions of automobiles on the streets and highways. The food industry would stop cold without the trucking and distribution that supplies the retailer.

Christian men, do you realize how crucial the task of every congregation is, and your task in the middle of it? In these days we see the worldwide enterprise of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we meet missionaries from overseas, we get an insight into the planning and plant that go into the training of the church's teachers and pastors. But all of it is ready to fade into oblivion unless the Christians at home in the congregations which you represent and of which you are a part are willing to share the burden and contribute to the work in prayer and interest and money. But where does the will to that sharing come from? It comes from them themselves as they encourage one another and supply the will straight from the heart of God in the edifying Word, the reminder of Christ, who became poor that we be rich in our sharing, Christ, who gave Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the world. Through Him we have the Word of that work to share which gives the faith and the love to make the church's witness possible and steady in every age and every place. (Heb. 10:19-25)

C

Let's look at the components of the work of the Christian congregation. A television manufacturer advertises a set built into a drawer that you can pull out and repair the components if necessary. Examine this enterprise that you call the Christian church in the place, and see what makes it work as it builds up the weak and sends us all out into our world holding forth the Word of life.

We put all of this work together under the term "Word and sacraments." Those words get stale, and we have to fill them with meaning again and again. "Word" means the edifying Word, the action of God for us in Jesus Christ, His cross and resurrection reaching us through the ways by which God causes them to go to work in our lives. "Word" suggests the words that are spoken in our services of worship, the lessons from Scripture, the preaching, and the teaching. That will do provided that we realize that through those

words God is causing the work of the Lord Jesus Christ to take hold in our lives. This is the way that the Holy Spirit becomes alive in us, namely as He causes us to remember what Jesus said and did. (John 14:26)

To be wholly accurate we would say: "The edifying Word in the words of the Gospel and in the sacraments," for the Word is at work in the sacraments too. In Holy Baptism God for the first time sets up His heavenly housekeeping in the human heart, as a person gets a share in the death which Jesus died for his sins so that he rises in the resurrection to a new life in and for God with Christ. In Holy Communion, as we eat and drink the body and the blood of Jesus, He causes us to remember the very death on the cross by which we have the forgiveness of sins from God and are welded together into the body and family of people who are pledged to love and help one another.

As the Christian congregation joins in Gospel and sacraments, each one of its members has the opportunity to share that life-giving remembrance of Jesus Christ with each other one. How does it come that this live action of God in Christ doesn't always seem to happen in a service of Christian worship?

It can happen where the participants don't understand the words that they are hearing and saying and singing in their hymns, or where they think that it doesn't matter that they understand. Then the whole thing becomes a form and a sham.

Or it can happen where each participant imagines that he is there for his own sake. He listens just for himself; the Word dies as it reaches him; he is not conscious of sharing it and passing it on. Practice that sort of worship in a Christian congregation for a while, and the whole process soon becomes sterile.

In this room at this moment sit three or four hundred pastors who once studied preaching with me at Concordia Seminary. I can imagine some of you saying after these many years in which we have not seen each other, "Prof, have you learned anything about preaching since we were in school? What's new?"

Yes, the philosophers are telling us that our language is really not capable of talking about God at all. The communications experts are telling us that there is no sense of addressing people unless they are minded to talk to one another about what we are saying. The Biblical scholars are saying that the first element in the process of preaching is that the preacher himself be struck by the meaning of the Biblical words and give meaning to what he is saying. The interesting thing in all of this is that Jesus and the apostles had said it long ago, and we tended not to notice. (1 Cor. 1 and 2; Luke 24:44-48)

The Christian pastor-preacher in the midst of his people is in a most strategic spot for causing the edifying Word to get started among them. But he has to be sure that he is helping them to remember Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. He is crucial for helping his people see what the Word of Christ can do. He himself has to be displaying what it does, how much he himself

needs it, how strenuously he and his family have to keep on clinging to it and using it.

The service of worship is not the only way that the parish church keeps the Word of Christ moving. Schools and classes for young and old, Bible classes and prayer cells, interest groups and administrative committees, sharing groups and sensitivity groups develop and gather about the core of the parish. Most numerous and important among them are the families, and Thursday we shall give them special attention. In every one of them people can speak the Word of God on to each other and build each other's faith and life through Jesus Christ. Some of these units are simply officers at work; ply your craft and do your business as the service which Jesus would have you do. Some of these groups are for sociability; don't be ashamed to have a good time with fellow Christians and to hallow your fellowship with the Word of Christ.

These are great years in our parishes for reassessing the work of Christian education. Our Synod is blessed with a strong corps of professionally trained Christian teachers assisted by a throng of volunteer workers. Join in that restudy. For you are facing up to what your business is. The question is not just whether to have hot lunches or to launch graduates into high school and college. The question is whether the boys and girls in the church school are themselves church at that moment, helping to build the faith and life of one another in classroom and on playground together with their teachers, and whether they are doing the same for and with their parents when they get home, and whether teachers and parents are a team not just in getting Charlie through school but in getting Charlie to be fruitful as a Christian and helpful in building the faith of fellow students and teachers and parents. It's a hard and demanding task to build and operate a school that serves that purpose.

The television age is highly conscious of boredom. The program that bores people loses its sponsor. The result is frenzied quest for novelty. Many a parish is unsure whether it is going to be able to continue with the same program of education, types of worship, structures of work. Let's not be confused into comparing things that don't belong in the same class. Worship, school, friends, family can indeed be boring. But the answer is not to discard them but to return the vitality to them with which they began. Amusement has its vitality because it is novel. The Christian church and parish and family convey the life of God because of the edifying Word. Are we really going to grant that Jesus Christ, Savior, Healer, Helper, Friend, Brother, bores us? Are we really only able to think of how old and stale the words of worship and teaching are? Or are we in them reminding one another of the Son of God, who died for us and rose again to be with us right now?

As I was writing the first draft of this address last winter, astronauts Borman, Lovell, and Anders were completing their epochal flight around the moon. How happy we were that they had splashed down safely

and how grateful for the advance in human knowledge which they made possible! Most remarkable, however, was the fact which Colonel Borman on the *Yorktown* and the congratulations of the President of the United States stressed, that thousands of people had contributed to this feat, not only at Cape Kennedy and at Houston and in the South Pacific but back through many generations; Colonel Borman paid tribute to Sir Isaac Newton.

It struck me at the time that this was a great parable for the Christian congregation as it goes about its work. Its task is to send Christians into their homes and out into their thousands of callings all over the world to display God's great acts in Jesus Christ. The tool for the task is the Word of God. Different Christians have different tasks in the process, and they use the help that has come down to them from many generations of Christians in the past. All of them are ministers and servants to one another to keep each other's faith and consecration strong.

How great if you can go back into that sort of teamwork! It takes patience; it means making up for mistakes; it involves frustration and tears. But how wonderful it is! For the Christian in the world is not simply an astronaut exploring an inhospitable moon and getting back safely. He is a helper and a sower, bearing precious seed that the world may come to life for God through Jesus Christ, whom He sent to save us and to lead us.

III

The Word of God Builds Christians Everywhere

LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

You and I are agents in the plan of God for keeping His people fed and sending them to be about His business. What a tremendous task, to direct the Word and action of God into people's hearts by which their faith and life is salvaged and built up day by day! How wonderful, we said yesterday, to see a Christian congregation working as a team to send its people out into the world, fed with the lifestream of God Himself, for their tasks of witness and service!

But a disquieting thought gnaws at our minds. It's hard enough to help an individual group of Christians work together in that team spirit. What then can you do to help six thousand congregations work together, the six thousand which are represented in this room? A thousand delegates can get the idea and catch fire for great plans. What do you do to help millions of Christians think together with one mind?

In this convention we talk about even more than six thousand congregations. We are thinking of many times that number. What do you do to work in unity with Christians all over the world?

A

It isn't easy. Nineteen hundred years ago the small and poor congregation at Corinth, which had been founded by St. Paul himself, was riddled with disunity

and false teaching and mutual suspicion. "Is Christ divided?" St. Paul had to exclaim when he heard about their factions.

The Lutheran Church is the product of a movement in the church of Europe four hundred and fifty years ago which tried to rid it of some of its faults. Instead a division developed which exists to the present day, and hundreds of further divisions have occurred. We still subscribe to the principles of that movement, the Lutheran Reformation, expressed in a document called the Augsburg Confession. That doesn't mean that we applaud division, for that Confession, subscribed to by seven lay noblemen and two town councils, affirmed that the true church is very much one, and in order to maintain its unity it was necessary with one mind to speak the Gospel purely and administer the sacraments the way Jesus gave them. In these days we say it in this way: To have unity between churches you have to use the edifying Word.

You see, there is really only one church. That is why we confess in our Creeds: I believe in the holy Christian church, or as the church once said: the holy catholic, the holy universal church. Wherever you find Christians, you have the church then, you say? Well, right, provided that the Christians are playing the role and doing the work which our Lord assigned to them and on which He founded the church, namely that they bring to one another the Word of Christ, the act of God forgiving their sins for the sake of the suffering and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, in order to build each other's faith and life. That means that a few people in a Christian household, many of them in a Sunday service, a thousand of them in one room like this can very much be the church if and when they are doing the great work of sharing the Word that builds the church.

In our lesson a moment ago a man who sits in a prison is writing to some Christians far away. He is thanking them for a care package which they had sent him. But he is thanking them for more than that, namely for being partners with him in the work of the Gospel and demonstrating to each other and to their world what Jesus Christ means to them and does for them.

For what makes one church is not just that we wear a button or have our name on the register of a parish or even recite the same creed. But the church is at work where Christian believers have accepted the responsibility to carry the keys of the kingdom of heaven and swing the doors wide for each other over and over again; where they not merely believe in Jesus Christ but where they exert Christ's own love in mercy and healing toward each other.

B

The edifying Word is like the oxygen that the body of Christ, the holy Christian church in the given place, breathes in order to live. A number of things have to happen to the air we breathe. It has to be free of pollution. It has to reach us so that we do not suffocate.

We have to breathe it when it reaches us, and if we are in danger of stopping our breathing, somebody has to do some good mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

The history of our Synod has been one of care for the purity of the Gospel. We want that Word to be unpolluted, our sacraments to be in accord with the institution by Jesus Christ Himself. St. Paul prayed for the Philippians that they might approve things that are excellent, and he told the Thessalonians to test all things and hold fast to that which is good. (1 Thess. 5:21)

We may have to remind ourselves, however, that as long as oxygen stays in a tank labeled "approved" or "tested" it does nobody any good. It has to be brought to the bedside or the gymnasium and breathed in long, strong gulps. Our Lord told us that we should preach His Gospel according to the Scriptures (Luke 24:44) and proclaim it as witnesses, personally demonstrating what it means to us.

The Gospel has to be brought to the next person. Its purity is worth little without the partnership of distributing it, St. Paul would say; and when you are in that partnership, even sitting in jail doesn't cloud your enthusiasm for the great task. We are pretty good at the use of the mass media. But the man with the key can't just write somebody that he has it and hope that the door will open. The sermons of my friend Oswald Hoffmann are doing their work not simply as people at a distance agree that he said some good things but as they hear this man bring Jesus Christ right into their own heart. Most of you laymen sitting in this room feel that the preacher in the Missouri Synod who speaks most helpfully to you is your own parish pastor. For he has demonstrated in a dozen ways a week that he knows you and is for you and wants you to have the power of God through Jesus Christ to take hold in your own life and that of your family. The Word edifies as it reaches the next man all the way, and the people of the church are responsible for making it reach.

The Word that edifies has to be breathed. This is doubtless why the Scriptures use the same word for the Holy Spirit that they use for the air we breathe. True, the Word that edifies, the power of God in the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ, has to start the breathing to begin with; we can't do it by ourselves. But as that Word keeps coming, it has to be breathed and not merely identified. I've been on scores of plane flights where the stewardess rehearses the procedure in case the air pressure in the cabin fails. The climax of her demonstration is: "Put the cup over your nose, and breathe normally." I have an idea that we sometimes sit in our church services thinking about nothing, or about everything else than what is going on, just because we are satisfied that we heard the story long ago about the lifesaving breath — and we forget the moment is now — now is the time to breathe in the Gospel of God for the refreshing and sustaining of our own life.

The church is better than a plane full of passengers watching a cup dangle in front of the stewardess.

We are in the business of practicing the breathing itself. Don't get bored when we sing the hymns or repeat the psalms and the canticles of the service or hear the lessons or ponder the preaching. I still have to hear the first plane passenger mutter, "Oxygen again! I'm getting out of here. Can't they think of something new?" As a great teacher of the church once said: We have the same old Gospel for brand-new needs. Let's practice drinking it in. And as we do, we shall discover that the problems of factionalism and disunity, of discord and grumpiness will find their match, and the church will be able to do its work well. What makes us one in this Synod is not just that we have one President or one 210 North Broadway. But it is that we share the calling of bringing the one God, Father of us all, one Lord and one Baptism of us all to bear upon each other day by day.

C

Having said that, we are prepared to face the problem of unity with Christians of another name. For what we are saying these mornings applies to our relation with all Christians. There is no Christian in the world from whom I have the right to withhold the edifying Word that I have in my heart and mind where I see that person in need and have the chance to share it with him. At this moment there is a group of Lutherans with a background of some generations ago much like our own, identical in subscription to the Augsburg Confession and all of the creeds of the church. They are ready to say that they are in fellowship with us. That's the word that St. Paul uses about the Philippians: "I'm thankful for your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now."

Shouldn't it be easy to do this? We normally worry about the pollution of doctrine; here are people who claim the same standards of purity that we do. When did we discover that the way was open to this declaration? Why not thank God that we can be partners in the proclaiming of the Gospel?

Actually we have been at work on this for a long time. The first convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that I attended as a pastor was in St. Louis 31 years ago. Led by stalwarts of the faith like Theodore Engelder and John H. C. Fritz and Walter A. Maier, our Synod declared that the doctrinal basis for unity had been realized with the American Lutheran Church, a component of the present American Lutheran Church. But shortly afterward misgivings about pollution of doctrine halted further progress to the present moment.

What can inhibit partnership in the Gospel, especially when the basic concern for the unpolluted Gospel appears to be shared by both?

One thing is fear. Since we do not know all of the members of The American Lutheran Church and its pastors and teachers, we are afraid that there may be some who do not have purity of conviction.

Could St. Paul be speaking to us too when he writes to the Galatians concerning shortcomings that were of a doctrinal and theological as well as practical nature:

"Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each man will have to bear his own load. . . . Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (6:1-5,9)?

A fear can steal over us at those words, for we have so much to set right in our own churches and schools, our own hearts and fellowship. Why don't we, like the scribes and Pharisees in the old story about Jesus and the woman taken in adultery, slowly stand up and walk out, beginning with the eldest, maybe me? The answer is that we have the edifying Word, the forgiveness of sins from God in Christ to apply to ourselves for our shortcomings and for our pride, and we take it gladly and humbly. That is what the church is: people applying the forgiveness of sins to one another. But how can we withhold it from other Christians or refuse to acknowledge the partnership in the Gospel in which we already stand?

Another inhibitor for that full sense of partnership is the fear of having been found wrong. Church fellowship is not a problem alone of a few church leaders and theological faculties and commissions and District officials affirming that there is sufficient unity between two churches that they can be declared "in fellowship." Church unity is where the people are, down in each neighborhood and countryside. The old divisions have cut through families and friendship and have left generations of silence in their trail. The edifying Word works where there is partnership in the Gospel, where people share in its distribution, beginning with you and me.

Many a pastor and parish quails at the prospect of reopening cases of church discipline that had supposedly been settled long ago. When Jesus told His disciples about the keys of forgiveness and said, "Where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them." St. Peter caught the meaning, and he said, "Lord, how often shall by brother sin against me and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times but seventy times seven" (Matt. 18:18-22). It's a wearying prospect, this partnership in the Gospel, this business of speaking the Gospel to melt the heart of the brother over and over—and of listening to the Gospel to melt our own.

Another inhibitor for the partnership in the Gospel is the principle that the Gospel should be debated until we agree what it is. This is an occupation that employs the skill and satisfies the conscience of the theologian. Let's discuss differences a bit more; let's dredge them up if we can't find them on the surface; let's look for them in the folk piety of the people, in the experiments of theologians, in the poetry of versifiers, so that we

can find flaws in the subscription to the Lutheran Confessions. When we find them, shall we postpone partnership? Paul has a good word to the Philippians: "Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the Word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain." (Phil. 2:14-16)

Search the Scriptures for the truth of the edifying Word, yes. But from the debate to prove ourselves right and the other wrong, from that may the edifying Word spoken humbly to one another deliver us. And it's high time as we display ourselves to a needy world in the goldfish bowl of the national news services.

A final inhibitor for the partnership in the Gospel is leapfrogging. By that I mean the tendency to overlook the job of Christian love that is next door and within reach, in order to get busy far away. Outstanding leapfroggers were the priest and Levite on the Jericho road anxious to get from the temple into the family back home and stay untouched by the man bleeding to death in their path. Five years ago the Synod made a huge step forward when it affirmed that the mission of the church is not accomplished by leapfrogging over man's need at home to invest itself in programs overseas, or vice versa, but that the mission of the church is one.

So it is that we brace ourselves for partnership in the Gospel not only in these days but back home too. The edifying Word that moves out from this convention dies in thin air where any one of us fails to speak it directly to spouse and children, fellow members and Christians back home. The progress toward synodical fellowship, whether you propose to make it official or not, goes on, and you can't afford ever to stop it or to silence it. Least of all do you stop it toward a friend who says, "You folks accept the Augsburg Confession too?" and you say, "Yes, it says, 'For the true unity of the church it is sufficient that with one accord the Gospel is preached and the sacraments rightly administered.'"

IV

The Word of God Builds Christian Families

LESSON: LUKE 10:38-42

I am deeply grateful for this privilege of addressing the representatives of 6,000 congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Probably nowhere else in the world at this moment is there such a concentration of thought on the meaning of the church and of the Word of God that has to build it.

At the same time I am talking not just to delegates of congregations but to representatives of families. Most of you are spouses and parents. Whatever chain reaction of sharing the edifying Word can grow out of this convention will take hold first of all in many thousands of homes. The whole proposal won't be worth much unless that is exactly where it takes hold first.

A

The church is the gathering of members of the body of Christ, and it is everywhere where God's people are bringing the edifying Word to bear upon one another. The simplest and primary cell for this operation is the Christian family. St. Paul called the union of the Christian husband and wife a mystery, the unfolding of God's redeeming love in His Son, the church (Eph. 5:32). Repeatedly he conveyed greetings to a "church in the house" (e. g., Col. 4:15), a group of Christians in a household of whom he knew that they supported each other's faith and life by the Gospel of God. He had himself experienced it in the home of Aquila and Priscilla, who not only gave him employment as a traveling tent-maker in Ephesus or Corinth, but protection and stimulus for his faith and courage (Acts 18:2, 26; Rom. 16:3-4). That is what the people of God in our households are to be too.

It's difficult to make recommendations for the family in our day without sounding preachy. The old story from the Bible which we heard before this address is apt to sound like little more than a pretext for recommending family devotions before and not just after dinner. Youngsters and parents alike are apt to regard such advice as impossible to carry out. For home is where you get ready to go somewhere else. Home is where young mothers get stir crazy while the babies are tiny, where husbands leave for bowling to get refreshed for the next day's labors, where children gradually become too busy to help with the household chores and finally intolerant of the attitude of the elders who can't understand the young. As I talk, I sound like part of the conspiracy to keep the family boat from rocking and to make youngsters behave comfortably toward their parents.

But let's admit it at once that the great households which the Bible holds before us were places where chores got done. Our Lord didn't complain about Martha's chores; what He said was, "Of the many things that are needful, one is most." He wasn't downgrading the chores but sorting out the priorities. At a time that seems so trying for the family and the maintaining of religious values in the family, how can we find it possible to keep a priority for the edifying Word, the remembrance of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ? As we try to answer that question, we shall get some help for doing this also in all the other situations of church life, its worship and education.

B

Let's start with the hardest question: What converts a household and a family into the church in that house? Is it simply that people take time out to read the Bible to each other and worship God? Isn't it true that such practices can become hurried and perfunctory, that youngsters can gain a lasting aversion to such disciplines and carry them over into demands of church and Sunday school which they find irksome?

Perhaps so. But remember what a family is all about; remember the one thing that makes it funda-

mental to all else in life. It's where life starts, you say, where the young life is protected and, for better or for worse, the character gets its first formation. It's where people undergo the discipline of living for each other rather than just feeding on each other.

In other words, this is the situation in which we get our first and best lessons in Jesus' saying, "Man does not live by bread alone" (Matt. 4:4). A day nursery or a baby sitter, a restaurant or a hospital do good things for a child or an adult. But a family is where a child gets care plus love, where an adult receives service plus faithfulness. Parents and children fuss at the steady burden, the unrelenting toil; this fussing erupts sometimes in jangling nerves and outright rebellion. But where the family really functions, there is more than bread and work. In these days we are trying to tell one another and provide for one another that plus. Our Lord said it of all things to the devil, "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." To Martha and Mary He could have said: "That Word is I, and let nothing take Me away from you." For the Word which God speaks to the world, the act by which He made and still sustains the world and the way by which He returns wayward mankind to Himself, is His own Son Jesus Christ.

People get very uneasy about parents who neglect their children. The biggest handicap of the underprivileged minorities, even more disastrous than unemployment and bad housing and ignorance, is the disruption of life in the family and parental care of the young. What they are missing — and this is often true also of the affluent suburb — is not just vitamins and playthings but fathers who are responsible and mothers who can give time and thought to love them and brothers and sisters who fit into the family as members and not parasites.

What people in families need is care for the total man — not merely for his physical growth, not merely for the nervous system, but man as he is directed by God in his inner self. That is where the Word of God takes hold. Somehow this seems to happen more easily as young parents take care of their tiny children. It is a great day when the baby is baptized, and it isn't only water that is doing great things there but the Word of God which is in and with the water. It is a great day when the youngster for the first time receives Holy Communion, and it isn't only eating and drinking that works life and salvation with the forgiveness of sins but the Word of God which brings that forgiveness through the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

What happens to families when that Word begins to fail in the package of care that the child is receiving? Well, what is the package that the mother and father are receiving? Is their life too deteriorating to groceries and laundry, paychecks and escape? Are the great moments of life worthy of family celebration only the acquisition of a new car or TV set or the announcement of a pay raise or promotion on the job? What do the youngsters see their parents get excited about, what do they celebrate day by day? We oldsters complain about

the young because they seem to get bored and sullen; have we asked what our own faces look like at home?

The trouble often begins with those problems of discipline. A symptom is there when the parent says, "Charlie, don't do that, Jesus wouldn't like it." Or when he says, "Of course you're going to Sunday school, Charlie. I had to when I was small, and you're going to too!"

The trouble goes on when the youngsters hear heartless gossip from the elders, or criticism of leadership in the church or community with no apparent effort to help with the improvement. The trouble increases when angry words in the household are allowed to settle into sullen silence through long days of resentment.

The teen-agers bear the brunt of special criticism in our time. They talk language that we don't understand, keep company and enjoy pastimes that are quite beyond us. We are indulgent and permissive toward them, but we can't seem to purchase their favor or respect. We think they want to grow up and remain children at the same time. Long ago we were probably just as exasperating to our elders. But something has been added today. At no time in the history of the world has the word of anti-God competed so successfully with the Word of God for the imagination and interest of humanity young or old. At no time have more brains and money been invested to edify the flesh instead of the spirit. Recordings and television move right into our homes, so that everyone will agree that sensation and enjoyment are king and man lives by bread alone.

We don't solve this problem by saying no. Youth is magnificent in its potential for loyalty and growth; there's nothing like it in the world. The people who are in best position to tap this rich potential and train it for the uses of God and men are parents. But they themselves have to keep up their training. They can't get by with tired ways and simple commands. It won't work for them to be merely grumbling spectators of life from which they have been excluded.

What keeps parents and children members of each other as long as they live is the edifying Word. The Christ talk which was natural at baptism has to continue, now directed to the new needs and concerns of the lives of both the parents and the children. Parents have to work at it not just to enjoy some sort of old-age benefits or retirement insurance. But they have to work at it as God did in Christ, with simple love and affection often for the unlovable. The Word by which man lives has to seem to the youngster the most important commodity in the world, the one thing needful, and that they must learn as they see their parents not merely recommending it but living by it.

C

When I was a boy, I used to think to myself at the story of Mary and Martha, "See, Mother oughtn't to spend so much time at housework — and I either." By hindsight I realize that the real lesson of the story was not lost on my parents. In a parish only a few miles from this room we shared the life of worship and all that went with it as a matter of self-evident and con-

stant discipline. The quickest way I know to turn the clock back fifty years is to read a devotion of the late Doctor Theodore Hoyer to my aged father and hear him answer without fail: "Hoyer was a great preacher."

There is only one church, we have been saying these days, and only one edifying Word which is the life breath of the church. As we ponder the agonizing problems that beset the contemporary Christian family as it tries to maintain its spiritual life against the erosion of the world round about it and still raise youngsters that can move out into the midstream of the world's need, let's not forget the resources which the holy Christian church makes available to it. This whole convention is organized around the effort to plan those resources and devise improvements. The family does not walk alone; it works in phase with all its counterparts in the church.

In recent years the effort has been made especially in Europe to revive worship and the spiritual life by dissolving the worshiping parish and stressing the worshiping family. But that is precisely the excellence of the parish, that it turns the either-congregation-or-family into a both-and. It is the gathering of many families into one both, each component of which helps every other one.

What can the congregation do to help the members of the family choose the good part and not have it taken away? What can the servants of Synod and the church at large do to help them?

Start with the most obvious: Families need a massive training in the practices of family worship. They need more than materials that can be distributed, important as they are, but they need programs of demonstration, systems by which a number of families can confer as to how they are progressing. Their worship has to be worship indeed, the gathering of the minds and hearts of the household into adoration of God as Father, the bringing of family problems to God in prayer and family blessings to God in thanksgiving. Their worship has to be shared by the speaking and singing and praying and questions and contributions of all who are present. Their worship has to concern that family for that hour. But it has to train for thought for people who are not in that circle, widen the horizon of love to reach next door and to the other side of the globe. Their worship has to reflect the concerns that are in the news and on the radio then and now. Their worship has to be an act of trust in a heavenly Father who is kind and good and forgiving because of Jesus Christ, whom He has already given for their healing and rescue.

Such family worship becomes the objective of the finest talent of authors and publishers, the most canny and resourceful planning of people and pastor.

Families need massive training in being the body of Christ in that place. This comes self-evidently as the children are small, and it wears thin as they get older. But just as the members of the family accumulate years and experience, just as their responsibilities and handicaps enlarge, they need to put that body of Christ to the test. Don't say: "That's just not the way that people

live nowadays." They never did. Furthermore, some of the most respectable and unhampered activities of the family are apt to be just as much at fault in disrupting the mutual care of the members of the family as the distracting and the fragmenting ones—remember the two good ladies in the home in Bethany.

Each parish has a tremendous resource for this training, and that is the church's schools and educational agencies. They are our special concern in this year and this convention. Good education is that which is for practical use; good learning experiences are those which are rooted in the actual life of the learners. This means that religious education can never be satisfied with mere accumulation of theological or Biblical detail. Educators have to provide the experiences in daily life by which these details are put to the test. In our story our Lord employed object lessons that were so concrete that we have found them to apply in our own situation: a careful housekeeper flushed and damp with the complicated tasks of her housekeeping, nettled at being left alone with them, asking Jesus to put her sister to work to help her; and then we hear Jesus saying: Among all of those good things one thing is primary, and it is terribly risky to tamper with that priority in anybody's life. Every meal from that time on in the house of those sisters and their brother Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead, was freighted with the realization that something is worth more than food, and the remembrance of the great Guest who said, "I am the Bread of Life." The family first, and then the callings of bread-winning and neighborliness and citizenship and friendship, must provide the field experience that gives substance to religious education in our schools.

As we hear the complaints of weak Christians and of today's youth in particular, they make much of the staleness, sameness, soberness, lifelessness of religious worship and teaching. This is truly a disaster. For there is hardly a single prayer or hymn or religious observance in which Christians can engage which does not somewhere have thanksgiving, joy, good cheer, freedom, release from death, hope of peace and healing in it. Every time that Christians participate joylessly in religious forms, they are mangling the edifying Word, they are halting its action in its tracks.

This means that our churches, from their synodical helpers such as the Commission on Worship and the seminaries and colleges and the high schools and parish schools right on out to the parents in the family, have to join in a movement to put meaning back into worship, not just for the sake of restoring smiles and rhythm but restoring the life of God in Jesus Christ. For the edifying Word has to be spoken from person to person and picked up in the chain reaction of adoration, praise, and confession of faith. Again this training has to make the field experience, the practice in the family and school and parish, basic to the gaining of the skill and the understanding of worship. We have been good at building buildings. They are splendid tools, but they do not worship. People worship, and people have to be taught

in words which they can understand and with practices in which they join.

The edifying Word is the heart of the church's and the family's worship. There we remind one another that He, our Lord, is the One who is needful, who has done all, through His death on the cross and rising from the

dead, to make us children of the Father. After Him the whole family in heaven and earth is named; pray God also this family in which we gather in these days. In Him we have the Word to share for our mutual life and refreshment, our unity and joy, our march back out into our world.

RICHARD R. CAEMMERER SR.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Greeting Brought to the Denver Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by President Fredrik Schiotz of The American Lutheran Church, July 14, 1969

I am deeply grateful to your president, Dr. Harms, for sending Dr. Wiederaenders, your first vice-president, to our general convention last October. He brought a warm fraternal greeting that was much appreciated.

My first recollection of an exchange of Christian greetings between our respective churches at convention time occurred in the former Evangelical Lutheran Church. Your convention was meeting in St. Paul, and the sainted Dr. Behnken came to our convention in Minneapolis with a fraternal greeting that evoked a spontaneous standing ovation when he was through. Since The American Lutheran Church was organized in 1960, our two churches have practiced an official exchange of greetings at our respective biennial conventions.

This will be the last time that it is my privilege to represent The ALC in bringing a greeting to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The historical moment in which we find ourselves at this time requires that my greeting be more personal than I would ordinarily want to make it.

There have been a lot of things spoken and written in some circles about the president of The American Lutheran Church. Who is the man who stands before you at this moment? He is at heart a pastor rather than an administrator. The pastoral desire has been there since, as a nine-year-old boy, he sat beside his father at a Sunday evening service in a small church in northern Wisconsin. The visiting pastor's sermon centered in the love of Christ that drove Him to yield His life on Calvary's cross as a ransom for the sin of the whole world. In that sermon he recognized the Holy Spirit's call to enter the Lutheran ministry to proclaim the Gospel.

The president of The ALC has now served as a Lutheran pastor for 39 years. Life has proved to be far more complicated than it seemed to be that Sunday evening many years ago. But the vision of what the call was has never dimmed. And if you ask what kind of a Gospel does he proclaim, he would point to the text, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world," which he used on the installation Sunday in each of the three congregations where he has served. His preaching has followed the pericopes of the church 90 percent of the time. And that means it must be Biblical, exegetical preaching.

If you ask what is the president of The ALC's understanding of the Gospel today, he would point to Ephesians 2:8-10:

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Here one finds grace, amazing grace, proclaimed; but proclamation for a purpose—that God's saved people might walk in good works. Was there ever a day when the Holy Spirit called Christians to more action and good works than in our day?

What is The American Lutheran Church in which it has been my privilege to serve for 39 years? It is a part of the church of Jesus Christ. It is a Lutheran church. It is a church that through the two larger antecedent bodies of The ALC has had a considerable contact with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It remembers that one of these antecedent churches sought fellowship, found doctrinal agreement, but no fellowship was declared. It remembers that approval was given for two Missouri Synod pastors to speak at an inter-Lutheran seminar sponsored by the former American Lutheran Conference back in the early forties. It remembers that after public announcement was made, about two weeks before the seminar was to meet, the approval for participation was withdrawn. It remembers a letter from Dr. Behnken to the National Lutheran Council in February 1959, wherein he declared that The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod would be glad to discuss altar and pulpit fellowship with any Lutheran church on the basis of the Word of God. It remembers that Missouri's San Francisco convention in June 1959 offi-



Dr. Fredrik A. Schiotz, president of The American Lutheran Church

cially approved a proposal for discussions with The American Lutheran Church.

The discussions were held. They reached consensus about the meaning of the Gospel as expounded in the Lutheran Confessions. The discussions were concluded with the adoption of a *Joint Statement and Declaration*. This has been approved by our respective church conventions in 1967 and in 1968.

Recently, The American Lutheran Church has become aware of much talk about hypocrisy in The ALC. This allegation is in connection with the article on Confession in The ALC Constitution. It is said that the word *inerrant* in Article 400 has no meaning for The ALC. Indeed, the theological use of the word *inerrant* is difficult. But if it means what Professor Robert Preus has explained in an article in the *Concordia Quarterly* for June 1967, it is virtually a paraphrase of what The American Lutheran Church states in its *United Testimony* when it says: "We acknowledge with humble gratitude the condescending love of God in speaking to men through the agency of human language. We reject all rationalizing processes which would explain away either the divine or the human factor in the Bible."

We are in a *Xairos* moment of history. Our Omaha convention voted to declare altar and pulpit fellowship with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod. Our 18 district conventions have ratified the Omaha conven-

tion's action. Out of 10 issues before our districts for ratification this spring, the one concerning fellowship with the LCMS received the largest number of votes, 94.7 percent.

If you accept our proffered hand, we shall regard it as a gift of God's Holy Spirit. If you do not find it in your hearts to do this, many of our people will ask the question whether God's Spirit may be pointing us to new directions. Most of our people will have an ache in the heart, the same ache that you have carried since the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod withdrew their hand of fellowship from you.

I like the Swedish translation of the Hebrew text of the third clause in the Aaronitic benediction, which makes it read: "The Lord turn His face toward you." Brethren, may the Lord turn His face toward you, and toward this convention throughout your sessions.

On behalf of The American Lutheran Church, I extend congratulations to your newly elected President, Dr. Preus. In doing this, I pray that he may be given a large measure of the spirit that dwells so fully in the mind and life of his predecessor, Dr. Oliver Harms, the spirit of faithfulness to the Confessions; the spirit of honesty and integrity; the spirit of openness and concern for the issues of the day; the spirit of persevering love.

DR. FREDRIK A. SCHIOTZ

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Greetings to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, Denver, July 15, 1969

DR. HARMS, FELLOW LUTHERANS:

With the many crucial issues before you at this convention, I fear I cannot promise you anything exciting in these greetings from the Lutheran Church in America. In 1965 in Detroit it was different. Then Dr. Fry's place on the agenda made history. Dr. Behnken of revered memory was attending for the last time a convention of your Synod, but it was the first time that a president of my church had been invited to speak at your most official gathering. Since that time when Dr. Behnken and Dr. Fry shook hands and stood together for photographs in Detroit, the presence of a president of one Lutheran group at a convention of another has become routine. Now, being a brief routine item on an agenda is not very exalting to a man's ego. Yet, I am grateful for this routine, even grateful that it is routine, that it has become a regular part of your convention.

What should be more regular than Christians greeting each other in the name of Christ? In continuity with the church of ancient times I bring you first that fundamental Christian greeting, "Christ is risen." Gratefully I acknowledge your readiness to respond in faith, "He is risen indeed!"

Since for some years your church has allowed us to enjoy prayer fellowship, I bring you second the greeting which serves as an invitation to common prayer, "The Lord be with you." Again it is gratifying to know you would respond, "And with thy spirit."

In view of our Lord's high-priestly prayer that His disciples might all be one, people in our churches long to share the greeting in the Preface to Holy Communion, "Lift up your hearts." Then there is silence instead of response; because God's Spirit has not broken through to give the blessing of altar and pulpit fellowship.

Yet God has given us much of Christian life together. In addition to the resurrection, faith, and prayer, He has led us to unity in Baptism. Though we have not come to mutual honor for the sacrament at our respective altars, we do honor the sacrament at the fonts in all our churches. Though we do not enjoy reciprocal respect for each other's confirmation and ordination, we do respect the initiation into the Christian fellowship, regardless of whose congregation or minister is involved.

If we go further, it may seem strange that God has succeeded well in bringing us to unity in our confession of sin. We use almost the same words in our liturgies. Although each of us has been tempted on occasion to emphasize the sins of the other, we acknowledge in our worship that none of us are perfect. In this fundamental agreement about ourselves, there lies the potential for greater unity. If all of us are prodigals, who dares to play the self-righteous elder brother?

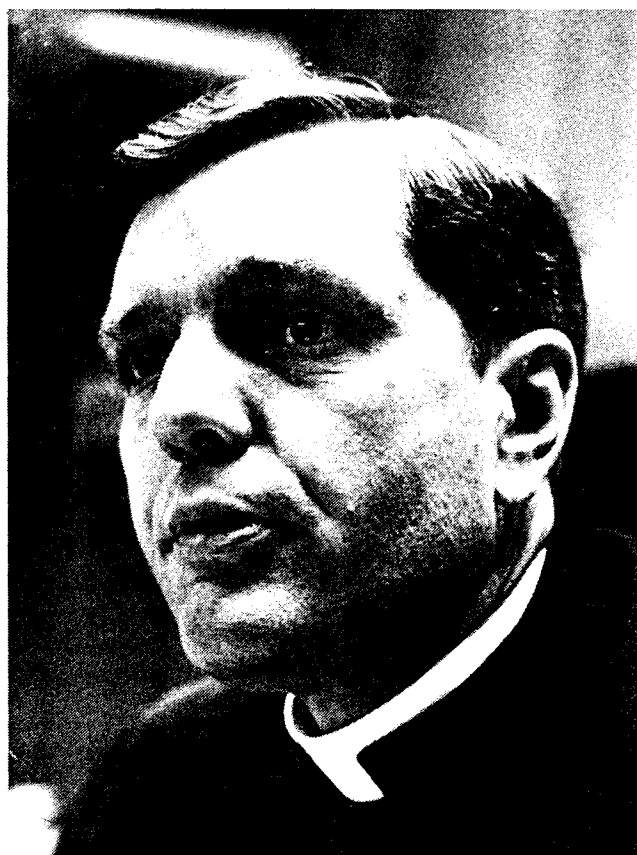
We know our relationship with God depends entirely upon His forgiveness and upon His fulfillment of righ-

teousness in Jesus the Christ. Our heritage endows us with a strong opposition to synergism. Recently a Lutheran scholar from the Roman Catholic Church concluded that the crucial debate of the Reformation centered upon freedom of the will.

In the present ecumenical age, we Lutherans have a contribution to make in stressing man's dependence upon God for eternal salvation.

Since this is also an increasingly secular age, we Lutherans have reason to stress that salvation frees us from an inordinate concern about being religious. Our Lutheran confessional documents illuminate the futility of increasing holy days and holy observances, monastic exercises and isolating forces of life. Instead, having considered the essentials, grace and faith, the Confessions define Christian life in terms of service to fellow-man. Consequently there should be little wonder that our churches have cooperated in world relief projects, in some social welfare work at home, in emergencies served by military chaplaincies, and in consultation to avoid the duplication of ministry.

Today the world seeks out the church in strange ways. The demands placed upon us may not agree with our conception of the church's function in society. The voices that call to us, however, may help us discern new forms of human need and new opportunities



Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America

for service. The needs outside in the world are great enough to make us hope our differences inside the church will not weaken our service to the needy.

In this time when tensions are increasing in the world, and when our national life suffers from conflict, we may hope that the church will not succumb to the sins of its environment. We must pray and work for the church to lead the way to civil righteousness and to reconciliation.

A century ago, national tensions in the 1860s were reflected in the splintering of Lutheranism in North America. Near the dawn of the 20th century, the tide turned. Many exaggerations in teaching and practice were modified by new perspectives, and Lutheran unity grew steadily. In part the 1960s brought to maturity several trends in Lutheran unity. At the same time this decade has brought national polarization and new threats of division for the church.

In such a time you are to be commended for choosing the convention theme, "The Edifying Word." God's Word is the distinctive source of our life and the distinctive content of our communication. Through His Word, God intends to edify, that is, build up His church, not tear it apart. If our work is made of stubble, of course, it can be burned, and we would be saved by the skin of our teeth, as St. Paul said. Yet God still shows us He is our gracious heavenly Father.

If we Lutherans disagree, we should be able to do so as brothers, not as enemies nor as strangers. As part

of the same clan in the great family of God, we must seek to live so close together that the devil and the world may not come between us. Then if the vanities of our own flesh are not to defeat us, we will need God's uncompromising Word.

My final greeting comes in the versicle that anticipates God's benediction, "Bless we the Lord," to which all could respond, "Thanks be to God."

We thank God for what we already share: prayer and Baptism and a confession of sin and a confession of faith, the Ecumenical Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions and the forgiveness of God, righteousness and the power of the resurrection in Christ, and fresh opportunities to share our understanding of the Gospel with other churches and even the world calling us to strengthen our dedication and our mission. Thanks be to God for all He has given and for hope in the Spirit for what shall yet be.

Dr. Harms, I thank you for the privilege of addressing this convention. You have been an inspiration to me as you have led The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod with persevering faithfulness and as you have joined in inter-Lutheran work with Christian conviction and wisdom. I look forward to working with Dr. Preus, who comes to his position from an experience familiar to me in a theological school. I pledge my prayers for God's blessing upon you, upon him, upon your Synod, and upon our cooperative work.

DR. ROBERT J. MARSHALL

RESOLUTIONS

1. MISSIONS

To Commend and Continue Project Timothy

RESOLUTION 1-01

Report 1-01, III, C, 1, a (CW, pp. 5—6)

WHEREAS, Project Timothy, in sending seven North American pastors to congregations in Japan and the Philippines for six weeks, proved to be a successful and valuable pilot project in providing individual growth and experience in mission thrust and awareness and information of God's mission to local and neighboring congregations; therefore be it

Resolved, That Project Timothy be continued and expanded to include teaching ministers, seminarians, and lay ministers, including women and youth; and be it further

Resolved, That this witness be concerned with crossing cultural boundaries within this continent as well as geographical boundaries abroad; and be it finally

Resolved, That this project be opened to a consideration of reciprocal witness from abroad.

Action: *adopted as amended* (2).

(Amendment: Addition of "seminarians.")

To Make 1973 Evangelism Year

RESOLUTION 1-02

Overture 1-07 (CW, p. 50)

WHEREAS, God in the power of His Holy Spirit has graciously entrusted us with the message of salvation through faith in the one and only Savior, Jesus Christ, and commissioned us to be His witnesses; and

WHEREAS, Evangelism will be emphasized on a national basis in 1973 by other Christian denominations in an effort to confront people more fully and more forcefully with the Gospel of Jesus Christ; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod make 1973 a year for a Synodwide evangelism thrust; and be it further

Resolved, That the Evangelism Department of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be instructed to implement the above resolution; and be it finally

Resolved, That District leadership be directed to promote the 1973 evangelism thrust on a regional basis and to provide maximum assistance in developing full parish participation.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Recognize Anniversaries of Mission Fields and Consecrated Ministers

RESOLUTION 1-03

Report 1-01, IV, C, 1—4; D, 1 (CW, pp. 8—14, 24—25)

WHEREAS, Our church by the grace and blessing of God has been privileged to convey the edifying Word

to a great number of nations and people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, We in this biennium recognize the following anniversaries:

The 75th anniversary of our work in India, our first overseas mission field (Missionaries Theodore Naether and Franz Mohn);

The 75th anniversary of our ministry to the deaf (Missionary Augustus Reinke);

The 20th anniversary of our work in New Guinea;

The 20th anniversary of our work in Japan; and

The 10th anniversary of our work in Korea; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod urge all of its congregations to give special thanks and praise to the almighty Lord for having guided and blessed these ministries, having blessed and preserved those who faithfully labored in these ministries; and that we implore His grace and blessing in the continuation of these ministries.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (2).

(Amendment: To send a copy of this resolution to the close surviving relatives of the missionaries mentioned.)

To Express Confidence in Our Mission Personnel

RESOLUTION 1-04

Overture 1-04 (CW, p. 49)

WHEREAS, Overture 1-04 expresses an undocumented judgment of the attitudes and actions of our foreign missionaries in proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; therefore be it

Resolved, That we decline those portions of the overture which contain this undocumented judgment; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our confidence in the integrity of our foreign missionaries and our mission training personnel in their commitment to preach Jesus Christ as the only way to life with God and thereby reject any "other Gospel."

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Continue Cooperation in Overseas Missions

RESOLUTION 1-05

Overture 1-08 (CW, pp. 50—51)

WHEREAS, A significant development in the overseas work of the church is that of ecumenical cooperation and involvement. In many parts of the world the churches and missions in relation with us have found it Scripturally correct and imperative to find ways of cooperating with other churches and missions in their faithfulness to Christ's one mission in all the world. In some

places pulpit and altar fellowship has been established with fellow Lutherans as in India, New Guinea, and Japan. Joint theological training and joint teacher training programs have been established or are being planned in Mexico, Ghana, India, New Guinea, Taiwan, and Japan. Production of literature, as well as radio and television programming, is carried on jointly in many areas. In some areas the churches and missions have taken membership in federations such as the Federation of the Lutheran Churches of India, or in national church councils; and

WHEREAS, In all these instances there was abundant evidence that careful thought had been given to these steps and that the primary goal was not organizational relationships so much as the opportunity which these steps presented of making a strong confessional witness in strategic places; and

WHEREAS, The church is God's mission to the whole world; and

WHEREAS, The church is God's mission to the church; and

WHEREAS, The lack of Christian unity adversely affects witness to non-Christians and to other Christians; therefore be it

Resolved, That we rejoice and thank God for having led our overseas brothers and sisters to discover this unity in Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage continued efforts toward expression of the unity in Christ among overseas churches, emphasizing faithfulness to the Gospel of Christ as expressed in the Scripture and in the Lutheran Confessions in every situation; and be it finally

Resolved, That we continue to relate to and work closely with agencies providing avenues of support for joint Lutheran ministries to which "sister churches" overseas are committed.

Action: *Adopted* (13).

(A motion in Session 7 to postpone action until the question of fellowship with The ALC had been settled was lost.)

To Apply Gifts to Specific Mission Projects

RESOLUTION 1-06

Overture 1-06 (CW, p. 50)

WHEREAS, New York Resolution 1-26 permits the Board for Missions to apply special gifts from individuals and congregations towards their approved program in addition to the amount of the firm commitment; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions in consultation with the Board for Stewardship develop and publicize a comprehensive annual program which identifies specific mission projects that can be supported by individuals and congregations in addition to their regular commitments to the District and the Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Observe Bible Translation Day

RESOLUTION 1-07

Report 1-01, IV, C, 2, e, f; Overtures 1-20 to 1-32 (CW, pp. 11—12, 55—56); 1-33U (URO, p. 3)

WHEREAS, Giving people the Word of God in their own language and teaching them to read it is essential to the establishment of a strong indigenous church; and

WHEREAS, The Synod's Board for Missions and its workers have been in the forefront of research in language trends and in efforts to translate Scripture into native tongues; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend our Board for Missions and its workers for their translation work; and be it also

Resolved, That we authorize the Board for Missions to provide for a Synodwide emphasis on this work by way of a Bible Translation Day in connection with our congregational observance of Universal Bible Sunday.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (16).

(Amendment: The original had the word "possibly" after "Bible Translation Day.")

To Coordinate Training of Bible Translators

RESOLUTION 1-08

Report 1-01, IV, C, 2, f; Overtures 1-20 to 1-32 (CW, pp. 12, 55—56); 1-33U (URO, p. 3)

WHEREAS, Individuals within the Synod have interested themselves in the field of Bible translation; and

WHEREAS, We commend these individuals for their interest and involvement but at the same time would remind them to avoid duplication of efforts and double solicitation of funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That we reaffirm the expression of the 1965 Detroit convention of the Synod that there be proper coordination of the recruitment and training of Bible translators with the overall foreign mission outreach of the Synod, and that it is essential that this coordination be initiated by the Board for Missions.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Use Resources for Missions

RESOLUTION 1-09

Overtures 1-09, 1-10 (CW, p. 51)

WHEREAS, We are concerned with the wise use of funds in best serving the mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, There are limited funds for implementing expanding opportunities for ministry; therefore be it

Resolved, That individuals, congregations, Districts, and synodical boards examine their procedures and policies to insure the best use of resources at their command in carrying out the Lord's commission.

Action: *Adopted* (13).

To Develop Regional Structures for Mission

RESOLUTION 1-10

Overture 1-05 (CW, p. 50)

WHEREAS, The Lord of the church has given various gifts of the Spirit to the members of His body; and

WHEREAS, Many of the urgent physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of people in metropolitan and rural areas are beyond the ability and resources of individual congregations; and

WHEREAS, It has been demonstrated that these needs have been more fully met and the Kingdom advanced by sister congregations sharing with one another the various gifts and resources of the Spirit; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge congregations individually and in cooperation with other congregations to examine local circumstances with a view toward identifying the possibilities for such intercongregational sharing and to form realistic regional structures to minister to these challenges and opportunities; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage such regional groups as already exist or may emerge to make use of the consultative services of District mission boards and committees; and be it finally

Resolved, That we ask such regional groups to convey and share their findings with their respective mission boards and committees and with the synodical Board for Missions.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Regulate Use of Mission Funds for Special Ministries

RESOLUTION 1-11

Overture 1-15 (CW, p. 53)

WHEREAS, There is concern about the use of mission funds in the area of special ministries; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions is held accountable for the expenditure of funds in its department; therefore be it

Resolved, That all expenditure of funds for projects in the area of special ministries be approved by the Board for Missions.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Coordinate Mass Communications Activities in Mission of Church

RESOLUTION 1-12

Report 1-01, B, C, D, 1, 2, 3; Overture 4-31 (CW, pp. 8—27, 221)

WHEREAS, God has opened up channels of communication that make instant communication to millions commonplace; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod became an early leader in the use of the media for the

proclamation of the Gospel and must make the best use of advancing technological capabilities in bringing the Good News to His people wherever they may be; and

WHEREAS, Some areas of the globe closed to foreign missionaries can be penetrated by the media of mass communications; and

WHEREAS, Many factors in our fragmented society have been inadequately reached; and

WHEREAS, Several previous conventions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have recognized the enormous potential of the media of mass communications for mission and have authorized the various studies that have been made; and

WHEREAS, The objectives of the Division of Communications and the Board for Missions are integrally related; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod instruct the Division of Communications in consultation with the Board for Missions and the Lutheran Laymen's League to establish criteria for the selection of unreached or inadequately reached target audiences in the Americas and overseas and to reevaluate priorities for an expanded use of the media of mass communications in the proclamation of the Gospel in keeping with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, and that each District of the Synod be urged to pursue a similar reevaluation in this regard; and be it further

Resolved, That the Division of Communications, together with the Board for Missions and the Lutheran Laymen's League, complete plans already under consideration; and be it further

Resolved, That the Division of Communications in consultation with the Board for Missions and the Lutheran Laymen's League develop new plans and projects for the expanded use of the media mass communications at home and abroad for presentation with appropriate budgetary requests to the 1971 Milwaukee convention of the Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the Division of Communications to draw on the talents and expertise of people involved in the communications industry and allied media fields; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Division of Communications make every effort to encourage and provide for the training of additional personnel in all fields of the media of mass communications.

Action: *Adopted as amended (13).*

(Amendment: Insertion of "and the Lutheran Laymen's League" in first three resolveds.)

To Invest Dollars in God's Mission

RESOLUTION 1-13

Report 1-03 (CW, pp. 45—49)

WHEREAS, The Synod's Church Extension Fund is involved in the total mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, Less than one percent of the Synod's communicant members have invested their God-given

stewardship in our Synod's Church Extension Fund; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage the Synod's members to earnestly consider the investment of their dollars in our Synod's Church Extension Fund and to experience the Savior's blessing that "where your treasure is there shall your heart be also"; and be it further

Resolved, That each delegate prayerfully present this matter to his congregations as the necessary first step to carry out this resolution; and be it finally

Resolved, That as we pledge our hearts and sacred honor to this resolution in the name of Jesus, so let both the synodical and the District Boards for Church Extension be encouraged to promote this phase of the program in the manner they deem best.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Provide Funds for Capital Needs

RESOLUTION 1-14

Report 1-03 (CW, pp. 45—49)

WHEREAS, Certain projects of the Church Extension Fund program for capital needs and advance site acquisitions were delayed or halted due to lack of funds during the past biennium; and

WHEREAS, The present conservative estimate for the next biennium's capital needs amounts to \$4,500,000; and

WHEREAS, Continued delay in the provision of such funds aggravates the problems and increases the cost of projects; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be encouraged to take immediate steps to make such funds available in order to make use of the opportunities God has now placed before us; and be it also

Resolved, That funds to meet such "Service-charge Loans" and "Advance Site Acquisitions" be provided and expanded as soon as possible.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Enable God's People for Mission

RESOLUTION 1-15A

Reports 1-01, 1-02; Overtures 5-30, 5-31 (CW, pp. 2—4, 28, 40—45, 239—240)

WHEREAS, The Synod has affirmed that the church is God's mission; and

WHEREAS, Mission is not an optional activity in the church but of its very nature and function; and

WHEREAS, Our Lord Christ (John 17:21) desires that His church be one in fact and action as well as in theory and that all Christians strive to manifest this unity by working together when it will edify Christ's body and advance His mission; and

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of all the Christians in a particular area to understand themselves as being not only related to their one Head but also related to one

another in the fulfillment of His mission in that place; and

WHEREAS, We are grateful for the contribution that the World Conference on Lutheran Education has made to our understanding of the mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, A confessional church must always be a *confessing* church in a meaningful relationship to all Christians; and

WHEREAS, There is a grave danger that the church will fail to meet the great opportunities that the Lord of the church places before her in our times unless many more Christians come to a proper Biblical understanding of their calling in the body of Christ and in God's mission and unless the church finds ways in which it can make a united witness to all men; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions be authorized to develop ways to enable our pastors, missionaries, and laymen to be Christ's people wherever they are, and to encourage, instruct, and counsel pastors, missionaries, congregations, Districts, and sister churches as they engage in cooperative ministry with other Christians in all parts of the world, including also those not organizationally related to us; and be it further

Resolved, That in the future, new ministries be carefully planned not only in consultation with established Lutheran ministries but with all existing Christian ministries, so that where a new ministry can enhance God's mission, it should be opened; and be it further

Resolved, That the Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church be instructed to examine the Constitution of the Synod in the light of the Mission Affirmations and, in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations and the Commission on Constitutional Matters, make appropriate recommendations to the next convention of the Synod; and be it finally

Resolved, That each District be encouraged to examine its constitution in the light of the Mission Affirmations and to act on appropriate recommendations which emphasize its mission and ministry; and that in turn each District President and/or the District Constitution Committee encourage each congregation to make similar self-study of its structure, its needs, its constitution, bylaws, and guidelines to provide for a reasonable degree of latitude and flexibility in carrying out its mission and ministry.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Urge Comprehensive Long-Range Planning on All Levels

RESOLUTION 1-15B

Reports 1-01, 1-02 (CW, pp. 23 ff.); Overtures 1-11 (CW, p. 51), 1-36U (URO, p. 3)

WHEREAS, Constant change in the nature of the frontiers which the church will be called upon to cross in the world of the '70s calls us to an awareness of the fact that comprehensive planning will be required; and

WHEREAS, We realize that form follows function and that best results in planning and developing occur when we are in ministry *with* people rather than *to* people; and

WHEREAS, The lack of careful consultation, planning, and coordination on the part of congregations, circuits, Districts, or boards and commissions of Districts can lead to the ignoring or slighting of certain segments of the society or community and to the unnecessary duplication of efforts; and

WHEREAS, We have at times deprived ourselves of the contributions which minority groups or subcultural groups, both at home and abroad, might have made to the mission of the church by our failure to recognize that they have something to say to us; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge all concerned, especially when initiating new ministries or expanding, relocating, or amalgamating existing ministries, to consult carefully with all parties that might be concerned or involved in the matter, to listen sympathetically to what people on the scene have to say, to respond to the needs of those involved, and then to develop comprehensive long-range plans in keeping with the goals agreed upon by the parties involved; and be it further

Resolved, That we wholeheartedly affirm our support of those congregations which work in areas of most rapid change, that we enthusiastically encourage them to exercise their God-given freedom to experiment with and develop styles of ministry appropriate to their areas, and that we urge them to work closely in consultation with their District boards.

Action: *Adopted as amended (16).*

(Amendment: Addition of the second resolved.)

(Res. 1-16A on seconding was withdrawn by the floor committee since the matter was being considered by another committee.)

To Develop Lay Leadership in Work Among Deaf

RESOLUTION 1-16B

Overtures 1-12, 1-13, 1-14 (CW, pp. 52—53); 1-34U (URO, p. 3); 1-XX (TB, pp. 37—39)

WHEREAS, There is a need for the deaf laymen to have a voice in the administration of work among the deaf; and

WHEREAS, Effective administration of the work among the deaf depends on the involvement and leadership of the deaf; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for Lutheran deaf to exert a greater influence on the deaf society; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod and District boards seek the counsel and active participation of the deaf in the administration of the mission; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for Missions provide for the development and involvement of deaf leadership in Christ's mission; and be it finally

Resolved, That the synodical Board for Missions enable the development of lay leadership through the formation of an International Lutheran Deaf Association.

Action: *Referred to Board for Missions for Action (16).*

To Recruit and Train Deaf Workers

RESOLUTION 1-17

Overtures 1-12, 1-13, 1-14 (CW, pp. 52—53); 1-34U (URO, p. 3); 1-XX (TB, pp. 37—39)

WHEREAS, The requirements of public institutions and agencies for the deaf make it increasingly necessary for workers among the deaf to have specialized training; and

WHEREAS, It has been increasingly difficult to recruit men for service in the deaf mission without providing adequate training programs; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions develop adequate policies for recruitment, preservice, and in-service training of workers among the deaf, including provisions for sabbatical leaves to obtain formal training.

Action: *Referred to Board for Missions for action (16).*

To Determine Administration of Work Among Deaf

RESOLUTION 1-18

Overtures 1-12, 1-13, 1-14 (CW, pp. 52—53); 1-34U (URO, p. 3); 1-XX (TB, pp. 37—39)

WHEREAS, The 1967 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod gave the assignment to the ad hoc committee of the Board for Missions to continue the study of the administration of deaf missions; and

WHEREAS, The ad hoc committee has completed a careful and detailed study of this matter; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions administer the work among the deaf in North America as a part of its North American mission program; and be it further

Resolved, That congregations, Districts, and workers in the deaf field be encouraged to give consideration to the implementation of the above resolve; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for Missions set general policy for the administration of deaf mission, including such areas as the administration of a field, field expansion beyond District geographic boundaries, capital programming, providing full-time workers, striving to achieve necessary uniformity, guaranteeing resources to the Districts for work among the deaf; and be it further

Resolved, That all the Districts of the Synod make the seventeen concerns in the ad hoc committee's report (CW, pp. 39—40) the basis for policy formation in the administration of the ministry to the deaf; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for Missions sponsor the Ephphatha Conference for workers among the deaf and

that the Ephphatha Conference be an official pastoral conference with required attendance; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board for Missions periodically review the administration and structure of deaf missions.

Action: *Not carried* (15).

To Have Board for Missions Continue to Administer Work Among Deaf

RESOLUTION 1-18A

WHEREAS, The Synod in convention has declined at this time to place the administration of deaf missions under the multi-District plan; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Missions be asked to continue its direction and supervision of deaf missions with greater use of deaf missions regional advisers; and be it also

Resolved, That the deaf congregations, together with the Board for Missions and the Ephphatha Conference, be urged to develop the potential of our ministry to the deaf to the fullest degree in matters of stewardship, evangelism, youth ministry, and expansion.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

(Since the convention had declined Res. 1-18, this resolution was offered from the floor in the final session.)

To Decline to Organize District for Deaf

RESOLUTION 1-19

Overture 1-XX (TB, pp. 37—39)

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions and the ad hoc committee on the administration of ministry to the deaf have carefully considered this ministry through a 4-year study involving six separate meetings of the committee and four Ephphatha Conferences (1966—69), as well as a number of regional conferences with deaf lay leaders, and has now arrived at the conclusion that this specialized mission and ministry at the present time and under the present circumstances would best be assured of future progress and success if related to the Districts of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The overtures of the ad hoc committee (CW, p. 40) avoid the evident administrative difficulties inherent in the Deaf District Plan, but include measures which provide for the essential benefits and advantages which the above-named overture seeks for our deaf congregations (i. e., unity, a voice in the planning of their own affairs, lay leadership, spiritual growth, and a challenging stewardship of life); therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod respectfully decline overture 1-XX.

Action: *Referred to Board for Missions for action* (16).

To Endorse Goals of Campus Ministry

RESOLUTION 1-20

Report 1-01, IV, d, 3 (CW, pp. 26—27); Overtures 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19 (CW, pp. 53—55); 1-35U (URO, p. 3)

Lutheran campus ministry, both in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the National Lutheran Campus Ministry (ALC and LCA), is in a stage of transition and change. The knowledge explosion, growing campus population, student movements, etc., are a few signals of new life, greater opportunities, and a new era for Lutheran campus ministry. A growing common understanding of the nature and scope of Lutheran campus ministry and a growing recognition and relationship between Lutheran campus ministries are apparent and visible at all levels of the Lutheran Church and point to the need and possibility for a greater united Lutheran campus ministry in the future. New directions in coordination and united planning need to be found and fostered. The Board for Missions of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod faces increased responsibilities with the Lutheran Churches in America in the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A. for the emergence of an enlarged and strong Lutheran campus ministry for the 1970s. Against this background, Committee 1 presents the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions has committed itself to the following priority of goals:

1. Growing communities of worshiping, witnessing, and ministering members of Christ's body in the Lutheran Church which recognize and manifest Christ's mission in the uniqueness of each specific campus community in accordance with the Word of God, the Lutheran Confessions, and the Mission Affirmations;

2. Organizational and administrative forms of campus ministry on the local, District, regional, and national levels which enable, facilitate, and coordinate the diversity of Lutheran campus ministries which the contemporary campus scene demands; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions in its work toward these goals has indicated its commitments to:

1. A Word-and-sacrament-centered Lutheran campus ministry that is (a) faithful to the Christian Gospel as it is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and affirmed in the Lutheran Confessions and (b) oriented to the campus community in which it has its basic mission;

2. A form of administration that allows continuation of the involvement of District boards of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in campus ministry in keeping with the spirit of the Mission Affirmations;

3. Forms of organization and administration for campus ministry that involve people in the planning and decision-making process as close as possible to the place of action and ministry, e. g., local areas;

4. The goal and task of coordinative and consultative planning of campus ministry with all Lutherans at all levels—local, District, regional, and national; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod endorse the position and direction that the Board for Missions has taken to carry out these goals and commitments; and be it also

Resolved, That we direct the Board for Missions to communicate and clarify these goals and directions of

campus ministry to the boards, committees, college and university students, and membership of the Synod for the purpose of aggressive action in campus ministry at all levels of the church.

Action: *Adopted* (15).

To Renew Dedication to Evangelism

RESOLUTION 1-21

Report 1-01, IV, C, 13, f-g (CW, pp. 22—24)

WHEREAS, A vast segment of the world faces the reality of death without any realization of self-identity, purpose, or worth; and

WHEREAS, We may recognize humanistic efforts to liberate mankind from death and its innumerable spiritual, emotional, and sociological ills, we must, however, acknowledge man's plight as so serious that its solution lies beyond the capabilities of human wisdom and power; and

WHEREAS, We as disciples of Jesus Christ have experienced the power of the risen Savior which has liberated us from death and its destructive consequences to a renewed sense of self-identity, purpose, and worth as children of God commissioned to be His new creation in a fallen, enslaved world; therefore be it

Resolved, That we demonstrate the reality of the new creation in living our lives as worshipful response to the Lordship of Jesus Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That we in newness of life offer ourselves to people in the world searching for self-identity, purpose, and worth, helping them to understand their predicament as alienation not only from people but from the true and living God, who alone can create authentic life, and be it finally

Resolved, That we proclaim the Good News of liberation for all who place their trust in Jesus Christ, the Father's way to eternal life under the re-creating power of the Holy Spirit.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Intensify Evangelism

RESOLUTION 1-22

Report 1-01, IV, C, 13, f, g (CW, pp. 22—24)

WHEREAS, God has committed to His church the proclamation of the Word through which the Holy Ghost works to bring people to a knowledge of salvation; and

WHEREAS, We have so often failed to take to heart what our Lord has to say to us in His Word and have been unfaithful in carrying out our mission in proclaiming the Word, through which the Holy Spirit works; therefore be it

Resolved, That we issue a loud call to all congregations of the Synod to humble themselves in sincere repentance before Almighty God, beseeching His forgiveness and continued patience; and be it further

Resolved, That we call upon all congregations of the

Synod to pledge themselves to a renewed and intensified consecration to the work of proclaiming the Savior through Word and deed; and be it further

Resolved, That we ask all congregations of the Synod to make the observance of the 1970 Evangelism Festival on the fourth Sunday in January the occasion of such a service of repentance and rededication; and be it further

Resolved, That we ask all congregations of the Synod to examine their forms and structures to make sure they are best suited for the proclamation of the Gospel by Word and deed; and be it finally

Resolved, That we ask all congregations of the Synod to engage in a thorough study of the extent to which they are meeting the spiritual and physical needs of their community.

Action: *Adopted* (15).

To Revise Bylaws for Medical Work

RESOLUTION 1-23

Report 1-01, IV, D, 4 (CW, pp. 27—28)

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions has endorsed the recommendation of the Medical Mission Council, based on an extensive study by a review committee; and

WHEREAS, This recommendation has taken into consideration the findings of the Coonoor Conference on the Healing Mission of the Church and their relationship to the Mission Affirmations; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod be instructed to review its own objectives, functions, and structure to determine whether these reflect an understanding of itself as having a healing ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That the *Handbook* be revised in the following manner:

8.71 Council for Christian Medical Work

a. The Board of Directors upon recommendation of the President of the Synod shall appoint a Council for Christian Medical Work composed of the president of the Lutheran Medical Mission Association or his representative, the president of the Wheat Ridge Foundation or his representative, and five other persons with professional competence to give leadership and counsel in the area of healing.

b. The council shall serve as adviser and consultant to all the boards and commissions of the Synod which have a relationship to the healing mission of the church.

c. The council shall meet regularly to consult with and advise the Secretary for Medical Work of the Board for Missions, who shall serve in a staff relationship to the council.

d. The council shall be the Synod's authorized agent to relate to the Lutheran Medical Mission Association, the Lutheran Hospital Association, and such other groups as have the healing mission of the church as one of their objectives, and shall maintain liaison with the department of medical services of the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A.

8.72 Objectives

The council shall strive to —

a. sensitize all boards and commissions of the Synod and its Districts to the need for considering healing a basic expression of ministry and to the need for communicating the concept of the Christian congregation as a healing community through the Synod's literature and programs;

b. enable boards and commissions of the Synod to be faithful to the New Testament concept of healing as basic to mission and ministry;

c. offer professional counsel and competent assistance to the boards and commissions of the Synod in establishing and operating programs and institutions involved with Christian concern for health and healing in North America or overseas;

d. stimulate interest among the Synod's youth to choose careers in the healing professions, provide counsel and guidance, and administer a scholarship fund for those in training; assist in recruitment of health-related personnel; help to provide specific preservice training for professional people preparatory to church-related medical work at home and abroad;

e. relate to all commissions and agencies, church-sponsored or church-related, and make available its competence and concern for the healing ministry. The council may also initiate or respond to coordinating efforts with other individuals and institutions which are involved in God's healing work;

f. serve as spokesman for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in its concerns about health and healing to other groups, agencies, foundations, governments, and the like;

g. provide a channel of communication to professional people involved in Christian medical work abroad and at home and to the Synod and its administrative units. It shall speak in behalf of the Synod and its administration to people in Christian medical work. To this end it shall provide a publication primarily for these audiences.

8.73 Secretary for Medical Work

The Secretary for Medical Work of the Board for Missions shall be appointed by the Board for Missions upon recommendation of the Council for Christian Medical Work. He shall serve in a staff relationship to the council but shall be administratively responsible to the Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions.

17.07 Relationship to the Synod

The Lutheran Medical Mission Association is recognized as a service group within the Synod to cooperate with the Council for Christian Medical Work and with the Secretary for Medical Work of the Board for Missions.

Action: *Adopted in form given above (16).*

(8.71a was amended to have the Board of Directors rather than the President do the appointing. The inclusion of LCUSA in 8.71 d was accepted by the committee.)

To Commend and Support Board for Missions and Missionaries

RESOLUTION 1-24

Report 1-01 (CW, pp. 1—49)

WHEREAS, God has greatly blessed our church with the gift of dedicated and capable men to serve on the Board for Missions and as missionaries in our worldwide outreach; and

WHEREAS, The report of the Board for Missions demonstrates this dedication in terms of faithfulness, ongoing plans, and vision for the future as exemplified in the lives of its workers; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank and commend the Board for Missions for its report and faithfulness to the church's mission; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage them to persevere in the work which they have begun; and be it further

Resolved, That we thank God for the gift of the people of God who as God's epistles speak and live the

Gospel of Christ to God's people wherever they are; and be it finally

Resolved, That we ask God's continued blessing upon their labors and pray that He continue to hold up their hands so that all they do and say may be to His glory and our good.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

2. THEOLOGICAL MATTERS

To Answer Concerns re Authorship of Pentateuch and Book of Isaiah

RESOLUTION 2-01

Overtures 2-09 to 2-18 (CW, pp. 75—76)

WHEREAS, The Synod in the Detroit convention, Resolution 2-35 (*Proceedings*, 1965, p. 103), has spoken forthrightly and wisely on the "Authorship of the Pentateuch and the Book of Isaiah":

Resolved, That the Synod answer these questions by appealing to what the Scriptures themselves say, as for example: "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed Me; for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?" (John 5:46-47; cf. Luke 24:27). "And He stood up to read; and there was given to Him the book of the prophet Isaiah" (Luke 4:16-17; cf. Matt. 4:14-16; Rom. 10:16-20). Thus the Scriptures ascribe the Pentateuch and the Book of Isaiah to Moses and Isaiah respectively. The Scriptures do not in so many words ascribe the human authorship exclusively to these men, but neither do they in so many words negate these conclusions; and be it further

Resolved, That while we uphold the importance of the human authorship of the Scriptures, even though the human author of each book cannot be ascertained, we recognize that divine authorship is the dominant factor in the origin of the Bible, as the Synod emphasizes in the statement it adopted in 1959 (*Proceedings*, p. 189): "We condemn and reject any and all teachings and statements that would limit the inerrancy and sufficiency of Scripture or that deny the divine authorship of certain portions of Scripture" (*Statement on Scripture*, 1958); and be it finally

Resolved, That in our preaching and teaching we do not bind consciences by saying more than the Scriptures say on these matters, and that, on the other hand, we warn against the use of theories regarding the authorship of Isaiah and the Pentateuch which detract from or nullify the divine authority of these books.

and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations is continuing the study of this question; therefore be it

Resolved, That the concerns of these overtures have been and are being met; and be it also

Resolved, That the authors of these overtures direct any further concerns or questions in this matter to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Action: *Adopted (10).*

To Urge Concern for Continued Exercise of Doctrinal Discipline

RESOLUTION 2-02

Overture 2-03 (CW, pp. 72—73)

WHEREAS, Concern is expressed that the Synod be

more grateful for its manifold blessings and more careful to avoid quenching the Spirit through inadequate doctrinal supervision; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage all its members to recognize the magnitude of God's blessings, especially in its adherence to the principles of "Scripture alone," "justification through faith alone," and "grace alone"; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod affirm the position taken at the New York convention in Resolutions 2-26 (*Proceedings*, p. 94: "To Follow Proper Procedures in Doctrinal Discipline") and 2-37 (*Proceedings*, p. 97: "To Deal Decisively in Cases of Alleged False Teaching") in reference to proper action in doctrinal discipline.

Action: Adopted (10).

To Reaffirm Position on Word of God

RESOLUTION 2-03

Overtures 2-08 (CW, p. 75); 2-58U, 2-59U, 2-60U (URO, pp. 5—6)

WHEREAS, There are those who fear that the Synod is in danger of straying from the old paths of our Confessions; and

WHEREAS, We should always be ready to bear witness to our faith in Christ as our Lord and Savior and the Bible as the Word of God; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod reaffirm that Jesus Christ is man's only Redeemer, the very Word of our salvation (A. C. III); and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod affirm the resolutions of previous conventions (Resolution 2-16, New York convention, 1967, *Proceedings*, p. 92; Resolution 2-01, Detroit convention, 1965, *Proceedings*, p. 94) that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the verbally inspired and the infallible written Word of God, according to which all preaching, teaching, and living is to be ordered and judged (F. C., *Triglot*, p. 851, Tappert, pp. 503—504).

Action: Adopted (10).

To Receive "Answers to Questions Raised Regarding the Document 'A Lutheran Stance Toward Contemporary Biblical Studies' "

RESOLUTION 2-04

Report 2-01, I, A, 1 (CW, p. 57)

WHEREAS, Some members of the Synod submitted questions or concerns about "A Lutheran Stance Toward Contemporary Biblical Studies," a document commended by the Synod at its convention in New York to the Synod's membership for study and discussion; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has issued the statement entitled, "Answers to Questions Raised Regarding the Document 'A Lu-

theran Stance Toward Contemporary Biblical Studies' "; therefore be it

Resolved, That this statement be received as a helpful explanation and clarification of the original document; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod recommend this statement as an aid for the continued study of the original document.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Receive "A Response to Questions on 'The Witness of Jesus and Old Testament Authorship' "

RESOLUTION 2-05

Report 2-01, I, B (CW, pp. 58, 499—500)

WHEREAS, The Synod in its New York convention resolved that the document entitled "The Witness of Jesus and Old Testament Authorship" be regarded as setting forth one aspect of the larger question dealing with the authorship of Biblical books and that it be studied and discussed in pastoral conferences with a view to testing its fidelity to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations was encouraged to reexamine this document in the light of the responses it received; and

WHEREAS, The commission has issued the statement entitled "A Response to Questions on 'The Witness of Jesus and Old Testament Authorship' " to answer the questions and concerns submitted to the commission; therefore be it

Resolved, That the statement entitled "A Response to Questions on 'The Witness of Jesus and Old Testament Authorship' " be received as fulfilling the request of the New York convention.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Preserve Doctrinal Unity Through Proper Supervision

RESOLUTION 2-06

Overtures 2-09 to 2-28 (CW, pp. 75—79); 2-62U, 2-63U, 2-72U (URO, pp. 6—7, 10)

WHEREAS, The continuing concern for preservation of pure doctrine and Christian unity should be cultivated among the brethren in the spirit of Christian love since all disunity in the church is displeasing to our Lord (cf. *Proceedings*, 1967, 2-26, p. 94; Eph. 4:1-6); and

WHEREAS, One of the primary objects of the Synod is the conservation and promotion of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10) and a united defense against schism and sectarianism (Rom. 16:17; Art. III of Constitution); and

WHEREAS, The Synod in previous conventions has reaffirmed its doctrinal stance by urging its members to uphold and honor the doctrinal content of synodically

adopted statements under the norms of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions (cf. *Proceedings*, 1965, 2-08, p. 96; *Proceedings*, 1962, 3-17, pp. 105 ff.); and

WHEREAS, The synodically adopted statements reflect a synodical consensus which speaks to the church in a contemporary manner and may be regarded as attempts to clarify the faith for the current life of the church; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has set forth in its *Handbook* the procedures for carrying out doctrinal supervision; and

WHEREAS, The President of the Synod has been entrusted with the responsibility of the doctrinal supervision of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod assembled in convention thank Almighty God for His grace and mercy in granting our beloved Synod Scriptural doctrine and practice; and be it further

Resolved, That by the grace and mercy of God the Synod abide by its doctrinal position as stated in its constitution (Art. II) and "uphold and honor the doctrinal content of the synodically adopted statements under the norms of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions" (*Proceedings*, 1965, 2-08, p. 96); and be it further

Resolved, That the provisions established by the Synod for disciplinary action and removal from office be evangelically followed and carried out; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod commend the President of the Synod for his conscientious efforts in carrying out evangelically the difficult task of doctrinal supervision; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the Synod and others responsible for doctrinal supervision be earnestly and prayerfully encouraged to continue such supervision according to the procedures of the synodical *Handbook*; and be it finally

Resolved, That all the members of the Synod be encouraged to support and cooperate with the President of the Synod and other officers responsible for doctrinal supervision in order that peace and unity be maintained.

Action: Adopted (10).

To Decline Request to Prohibit Use of RSV

RESOLUTION 2-07

Overtures 7-02, 10-13, 10-14 (CW, pp. 360, 423—424); 10-25U, 10-26U (URO, p. 77)

WHEREAS, Overture 10-13 does not present cogent evidence that the Revised Standard Version is a "doubtful Bible"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the request for prohibition of the Revised Standard Version in Sunday school and other literature be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the Commission on Theology and Church Relations examine Dr. William F. Beck's cri-

tique of the Revised Standard Version for such evidence as has not previously come to their attention.

Action: Referred to President for action (16).

To Answer Request for Restoring Full Harmony Between Prophecy and Fulfillment in RSV Used in New Catechism

RESOLUTION 2-08

Overture 7-02 (CW, p. 360)

WHEREAS, The problem presented by this overture involves technical questions in lexicography, hermeneutics, and interpretation, to which the Synod, in convention assembled, is not able to give adequate time and attention; and

WHEREAS, An occasional lack of clarity does not vitiate the usefulness of a version in a catechism; and

WHEREAS, The Synod recognizes the desirability of presenting the harmony of Old Testament prophecy and New Testament fulfillment as clearly as possible; therefore be it

Resolved, That this question be referred to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for study.

Action: Referred to President for action (16).

To Approve Revised Rules of Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship

RESOLUTION 2-09

Overture 2-56 (CW, pp. 91—93)

Resolved, That Overture 2-56: "To Approve Revised Rules of Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship," be approved as submitted.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Commend CTCR Document "Guidelines for Crucial Issues in Christian Citizenship"

RESOLUTION 2-10

Report 2-01, I, F (CW, pp. 58, 511—513)

Resolved, That the CTCR document "Guidelines for Crucial Issues in Christian Citizenship" be gratefully received by the Synod and is herewith commended to its membership for reference and guidance.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Commend and Strengthen Exchange Study Program

RESOLUTION 2-11

Report 2-01, Appendix A (CW, pp. 63—64)

WHEREAS, God has richly blessed the programs for exchanging students, pastors, and professors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and sister churches in

various parts of the world for purposes of theological study and teaching; and

WHEREAS, This has contributed to the theological growth and enriched the fellowship of the respective church bodies and their schools of theology; therefore be it

Resolved, That we gratefully acknowledge the little-publicized work of the Exchange Study Committee and the faculties of our St. Louis and Springfield seminaries for their respective contributions to this valuable undertaking in behalf of the Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the members of the Synod to remember this cause in their prayers; and be it finally

Resolved, That we encourage the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, under whose aegis this work is administered, to develop and expand this program for strengthening the theological foundations of Lutheranism in many parts of the world.

Actions: *Adopted* (3).

To Give Further Study to Communion Practices

RESOLUTION 2-12

Overture 2-44 (CW, p. 88)

WHEREAS, A District of the Synod has expressed concern with respect to the theological soundness of Resolution 2-19 of the New York convention (*Proceedings*, p. 93) concerning the administration of Holy Communion with particular reference to Lutherans of other synods not now in fellowship with us; therefore be it

Resolved, That the concerns voiced in Overture 2-44 (CW, p. 88) be referred to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for study and report to the Synod.

Action: *Referred to the President for action* (16).

To Answer Concerns of Overture 2-07 (Interpretation)

RESOLUTION 2-13

Overture 2-07 (CW, pp. 74—75)

WHEREAS, The Synod has recognized the great importance of questions of Biblical hermeneutics; and

WHEREAS, The Synod is working toward a clear statement on the interpretation of the written Word of God; and

WHEREAS, Although Overture 2-07 expresses many concerns of the Synod, in its final statement (6) it is not fully in agreement with the statements of the Lutheran Confessions and Holy Scripture concerning the way of salvation; and

WHEREAS, The Synod shares many of the concerns expressed in Overture 2-07; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod urge the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Ind., to continue their

study of the work of the Synod in the area of Biblical hermeneutics and to share in this work.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Include Laymen in Theological Conferences

RESOLUTION 2-14

Overture 2-55 (CW, p. 91)

WHEREAS, It is of great importance that the laity also have a wider understanding of the theological issues that face the church today; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod ask the Council of Presidents, in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, to study the feasibility of establishing theological conferences of pastors, teachers, and laymen on District, regional, and circuit levels; and be it also

Resolved, That if their findings are in the affirmative they prepare guidelines for such conferences.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Coordinate and Issue Study on Ordination and the Church's Various Ministries

RESOLUTION 2-15

Report 2-01, I, G; Overtures 2-47 (CW, pp. 58, 89); 2-74U (URO, p. 11)

WHEREAS, The Detroit convention, 1965, Resolution 5-14, (*Proceedings*, p. 127), asked the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to prepare a statement on "To Ordain Called Male Teachers"; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has engaged in a comprehensive study of this subject and its relationship to the church's various ministries (CTCR Report, CW, p. 58); and

WHEREAS, The Council of Presidents and the Commission on Mission and Ministry, and a special committee are also currently studying facets of this matter; and

WHEREAS, Overture 2-47 requests "To Study Implications of Multiple Ministries Deriving from One Office of the Ministry"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod ask the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to coordinate these various studies and issue a statement to the Synod by the next convention.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Affirm Historicity of New Testament

RESOLUTION 2-16

Overtures 2-19, 2-20, 2-21, 2-22, 2-23 (CW, pp. 76—77); 2-58U, 2-59U, 2-60U, 2-69U (URO, pp. 5—6, 8)

WHEREAS, Current trends in theology make the concern of these overtures relevant for today; and

WHEREAS, The affirmation requested by these overtures is an affirmation of a vital aspect of the church's faith, as is evident from the following considerations:

a. The heart of the New Testament message is the Good News of an event which took place in history, "under Pontius Pilate" in Palestine; this Good News concerns a historical figure, Jesus of Nazareth; the validity of the apostolic proclamation and the faith of the church stand or fall with the historical reality of the event (1 Cor. 15:1-19; John 15:22-24). The Gospels therefore invite historical investigation and are to be taken seriously as historical documents.

b. The event recorded in the Gospels is unique, without analogy in human history. It is nothing less than God's entering into human history for us men and for our salvation in the Person of Him in whom "the Godhead dwells bodily." It is the crisis point and turning point of human history, the coming in of the new world of God, the dawn of the new creation. Historical investigation here moves in the presence of the Creator, present in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth; historical investigation must reckon with the unlimited power of Him who raises the dead and calls into being the things that are not. Here the miracle is not only a possibility or probability; it is *essential* to the presence and activity of the Creator and Redeemer. Christian historical investigation must therefore beware of measuring probabilities by standards taken from a secularized conception of history; the warning uttered by the document "A Lutheran Stance Toward Biblical Studies" (Part Two, Chapter 3) is very much in place.

c. The apostolic proclamation of the event and the inscription of that proclamation took place under the impulsion and discipline of the Spirit of Truth. He glorifies the Christ through the witness of men. To attribute to the church a creatively formative part in the witness to the event is to fly in the face of all that is revealed concerning the activity of the Spirit; such an attribution introduces an intolerable synergism at a crucial point in the saving work of God.

The Spirit moves and works in sovereign freedom, and it has pleased Him to give the church the record of Christ in a rich variety and diversity of human accents, in order to bring home to man the whole unsearchable riches of Christ. It is not the business of the church to pick and choose among this variety, and the church has no reason to be embarrassed by this diversity. Rather it is the business of the Christian and Christian scholarship to welcome and use this variety and diversity for the enrichment and deepening of their faith; therefore be it

Resolved, That the 1969 convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod affirm the historicity of the New Testament, making this affirmation as an act of faith in the incarnation of our Lord as attested and presented in living reality by the Spirit of Truth in words which He Himself has taught.

Action: Adopted (8).

(The following amendment was offered but failed to carry: To substitute in the first whereas "Therefore be it resolved that we affirm the following" for "as is evident from the following considerations" and then to drop the resolved printed above. Another unsuccessful amendment sought to change the title to: "To Affirm the New Testament Record of Our Incarnate Lord.")

To Grant Woman Suffrage and Board Membership

RESOLUTION 2-17

Report 2-01, I, J; Overtures 2-35, 2-36; Appendix II(CW, pp. 59, 84—85, 514—522); 2-67U (URO, p. 8)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations, in accordance with Resolutions 2-05 and 2-06 of the New York convention, made "a detailed and exhaustive study of the entire question of woman suffrage in the church" and of "the matter of full membership of women on synodical boards, commissions, and committees"; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has submitted its report (CW, pp. 514—522); therefore be it

Resolved, That we express gratitude to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for this study; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend this study, as well as the study of the special committee reported in the *Proceedings, 1956* (pp. 553—569), to all congregations of the Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod accept the following declarations as guides on this matter:

1. Those statements of Scripture which direct women to keep silent in the church and which prohibit them to teach and to exercise authority over men, we understand to mean that women ought not to hold the pastoral office or serve in any other capacity involving the distinctive functions of this office.

2. The principles set forth in such passages, we believe, prohibit holding any other kind of office or membership on boards or committees in the institutional structures of a congregation, only if this involves women in a violation of the order of creation. We hold that they do not prohibit full membership of women on synodical boards, commissions, and committees. The manner of filling an office or establishing membership on a board or commission, in congregations or in the Synod, has no prohibitory Scriptural implications.

3. We hold likewise that Scripture does not prohibit women from exercising the franchise in congregational or synodical assemblies.

4. We therefore conclude that the Synod itself and the congregations of the Synod are at liberty to alter their policies and practices in regard to women's involvement in the work of the church according to these declarations, provided the polity developed conforms to the general Scriptural principles that women neither hold the pastoral office nor "exercise authority over men"; and be it finally

Resolved, That in the implementation of any changes in this area of women's ministry in the church we urge cautious and deliberate action in the spirit of Christian love.

Action: *Adopted* (10).

(The convention refused to consider a substitute motion declining to alter position on woman suffrage.)

To Decline Overture 2-70U (Catechism Translation)

RESOLUTION 2-18

Overture 2-70U (URO, pp. 8—9)

WHEREAS, *The Intersynodical Translation of Luther's Small Catechism* was the result of a long and intensive study, authorized by the Synod (*Proceedings*, Cleveland, 1962, Resolution 4-22, p. 118; and *Proceedings*, Detroit, 1965, Resolution 7-09, pp. 157—158), field-tested, scrutinized, and revised by the members of the Synod and adopted in the New York convention of the Synod (*Proceedings*, New York, 1967, Resolution 7-04, pp. 144—145); and

WHEREAS, The Synod adopted this translation with the conviction that the confession of the Real Presence of Christ in the sacrament was not endangered by the omission of the word "true" in the definition of the Sacrament of the Altar; and

WHEREAS, One carefully considered change for linguistic considerations in a translation of a confessional writing, intended for pedagogical use, does not open the door to the making of substantive changes in our confessions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod respectfully decline the overture; and be it also

Resolved, That all who have concerns in this matter discuss their concerns with those who are using the translation.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Accept Reports of Commission on Worship

RESOLUTION 2-19

Reports 2-02 (CW, pp. 69—72); 2-57U (URO, p. 5)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Worship has worked tirelessly during the past biennium to complete the projects assigned to it; and

WHEREAS, The commission is continuing its consideration and study of the *Worship Supplement* and hopes to have it available within the near future for experimentation by congregations; and

WHEREAS, The commission will shortly make available the *Hymnal for the Deaf* for release; and

WHEREAS, The commission hopes shortly to be able to make a "Statement on Communion Practices" available for general use; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention accept the reports of the Commission on Worship as they appear in the *Convention Workbook* and *Workbook Supplement* and commend the commission for its tireless efforts during the past biennium and pray the Lord's blessing on the early completion of these undertakings.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Decline Overture to Produce Substitute for "Christian Discipline" Document

RESOLUTION 2-20

Overture 2-04 (CW, pp. 73—74)

WHEREAS, The New York convention (*Proceedings*, 1967, p. 94, Resolution 2-26) asked the President of the Synod "to use every effective means to remind the members of the Synod of proper procedures in matters of doctrinal discipline"; and

WHEREAS, The document "Christian Discipline in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod" is only one of the means employed by the President of the Synod and was not produced as a set of regulations to deal exhaustively with the subject of Christian discipline but rather to be helpful "in providing information, clarification and guidance" ("Christian Discipline," final paragraph); and

WHEREAS, The *Handbook* of the Synod provides adequate procedures for the maintenance of discipline in the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 2-04 be respectfully declined.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Commend and Refer "A Statement on Death, Resurrection, and Immortality"

RESOLUTION 2-21

Report 2-01, I, D (CW, p. 58); Appendix II (CW, pp. 508—510)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations was requested to study questions in the area of eschatology, namely, death, the soul, resurrection, and immortality; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has produced the position paper entitled "A Statement on Death, Resurrection, and Immortality" as a result of its study; and

WHEREAS, An adequate study of and response to the document could not be made prior to this convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the position paper entitled "A Statement on Death, Resurrection, and Immortality" be commended to the Synod's membership for study and discussion; and be it also

Resolved, That the position paper entitled "A State-

ment on Death, Resurrection, and Immortality" be referred to the 1971 convention of the Synod for action.

Action: Adopted (5).

(The committee accepted the suggestion to change the last word from "adoption" to "action.")

RESOLUTION 2-22

(Res. 2-22 was a duplicate of Res. 2-09 and was therefore withdrawn by the committee in Session 5.)

To Study Charismatic Movement

RESOLUTION 2-23

Overtures 2-45, 2-46 (CW, pp. 88—89)

WHEREAS, Charismatic gifts (e. g., "Spirit baptism," speaking in tongues, healing, prophecy, etc.) are specifically mentioned in the New Testament; and

WHEREAS, Reports of charismatic manifestations are becoming more frequent and widespread, also within the Synod; and

WHEREAS, Controversies and divisions have arisen in certain areas of the Synod in relation to this matter; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to make a comprehensive study of the charismatic movement with special emphasis on its exegetical aspects and theological implications; and be it further

Resolved, That the Commission on Theology and Church Relations be encouraged to involve in its study brethren who claim to have received the baptism of the Spirit and related gifts; and be it finally

Resolved, That the commission's report be made available to pastors, teachers, congregations, and conferences as soon as practicable.

Action. Adopted (16).

To Accept and Commend "A Review of the Question 'What Is a Doctrine?'"

RESOLUTION 2-24

Report 2-01, I, C (CW, pp. 58, 501—507)

WHEREAS, The Synod in its New York convention also resolved that the document entitled "A Review of the Question 'What Is a Doctrine?'" be commended to the Synod's membership for study and discussion (*Proceedings*, 1969, p. 97); and

WHEREAS, The Synod in its New York convention also resolved that this document be referred to the 1969 convention of the Synod for adoption; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations received no questions or protests concerning this document; therefore be it

Resolved, That the document entitled, "A Review of the Question 'What Is a Doctrine?'" be accepted with thanks by the Synod and commended to its members for reference and guidance.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Make In-Depth Theological Study on Social Action Concerns

RESOLUTION 2-25

Overtures 2-48 (CW, p. 89); 2-73U (URO, pp. 10—11)

WHEREAS, The "Statement of Principle on Social Action" in Resolution 10 of the Floor Committee on Social Action and Welfare of this convention speaks clearly also to the concerns of Overtures 2-48 and 2-73U; and

WHEREAS, Additional theological studies on the issues that confront the church in today's world are essential for Christian involvement in social action; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Commission on Theology and Church Relations sponsor an in-depth study of social action, including the pressing problems laid upon Christian consciences in Overtures 2-48 and 2-73U, as soon as possible; and be it also

Resolved, That this study be made available to the Synod.

Action: Referred to the President for action (16).

To Provide Principles for Guidance in Participation in Cooperative Programs

RESOLUTION 2-26

Overture 2-34 (CW, pp. 82—84)

WHEREAS, The Board for Missions sponsors the Inter-Lutheran Missionary Pre-Service training program together with The American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America; and

WHEREAS, A question has been raised as to whether the joint sponsorship of such programs by Lutheran bodies not in fellowship is consistent with the Synod's doctrinal position on fellowship and unionism; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following principles express the Synod's understanding of the theological aspects of our involvement in such programs:

a. Joint sponsorship or participation in matters not directly affecting the Synod's doctrinal position (cooperation in externals) is not only possible but desirable when this can be done without compromising the faith or confession of the church (cf. "Theology of Fellowship," Part Three C, 4, CW, p. 544).

b. Joint programs involving the teaching of non-theological subjects or providing instruction and guidance in skills or methods pertaining to the communication of the Gospel may be considered legitimate examples of such cooperation.

c. When such programs include courses designed to provide instruction in doctrinal matters, the teaching of such courses, as well as the responsibility for supervising the doctrinal content of such courses (so far as members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are concerned), shall be carried out by members of the Synod or of church bodies in fellowship with it.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Honor and Uphold Doctrinal Statements

RESOLUTION 2-27

Overtures 2-31, 2-49, 2-50, 2-51, 2-52, 2-53, 2-54 (CW, pp. 81, 89—91); 2-68U (URO, p. 8)

WHEREAS, The Synod guides itself solely by the norm of the inerrant Scriptures, and the Lutheran Confessions as a true and unadulterated exposition of the Word of God, and exercises discipline and settles controversies by that norm; and

WHEREAS, In response to problems and controversies throughout its history the Synod has adopted many doctrinal statements as applications of that norm; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has accepted statements which stand in its history as specific responses to contemporary issues, not placing one statement above others but regarding them all as standing under the Holy Scriptures and under the Confessions (Cleveland, 1962, *Proceedings*, Res. 3-17, p. 105); and

WHEREAS, The Synod, guided by the Word of God and the Confessions, has not found it necessary to disavow any of its doctrinal statements and does not today; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in humble gratitude thank God that He has blessed the Synod with such doctrinal statements; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod continue to urge its members to honor and uphold the synodically adopted statements as valid interpretations of Christian doctrine and not to give them more or less status than they deserve; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod, in convention assembled, dedicate itself anew to the Word of God and the Lutheran Confessions that, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Synod may also speak successfully to the theological problems which beset it today, resolve the controversies which vex it, and apply Christian discipline.

Action: Adopted (16).

(The committee accepted the suggestion to eliminate the words "to alter or" after "necessary" in the final whereas. In the closing moments the assembly resolved that Res. 2-27 should also serve as its answer to Overture 2-31).

To Adopt a Statement on Conscientious Objection

RESOLUTION 2-28

Overtures 2-37 to 2-43 (CW, pp. 85—88)

WHEREAS, The Holy Scriptures teach that "every person be obedient to the governing authorities" (Rom. 13:1) but recognize the right and duty of the individual to obey God rather than men when the civil authorities demand obedience contrary to God's will: "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Confessions teach that Christians may without sin engage in just wars and serve as soldiers (A. C. XVI; Apology XVI, Tappert, pp. 37.2 and 222.1); and

WHEREAS, The theological position of the Lutheran

Church declares the individual's right to refuse participation in unjust wars (CTCR's "Guidelines for Crucial Issues in Christian Citizenship"; "A Christian's Attitude Toward War," CTM, Feb., 1955; CTCR's "Civil Obedience and Disobedience"); and

WHEREAS, The present military draft law exempts only those objectors who on the basis of conscience oppose war in every form and allows them a 1A O status (military noncombatant) and a 1 O status (nonmilitary service) and does not recognize objection to a specific war where the individual conscience is convinced that the government is engaged in an unjust war; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage its members to pledge themselves anew to loyalty and obedience to the government also in the matter of military service; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod reaffirm its historic theological position whereby it recognizes that conscientious objection to a war which an individual considers to be unjust is a valid stance; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Synod respect an individual's decision not to engage in a war which his conscience, enlightened by the Word of God, considers to be unjust; and be it further

Resolved, That the pastors and congregations of the Synod be urged to make use of the CTCR's documents "Guidelines for Crucial Issues in Christian Citizenship" and "Civil Obedience and Disobedience" in providing a counseling and supporting ministry to those who conscientiously object to military service as well as to those who in conscience choose to serve in the military; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod petition the government to grant equal status under law to the conscientious objector to a specific war as it does to a conscientious objector to all wars; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Social Ministry study the matter of amnesty for those who have refused to serve in the armed forces for reasons of conscience and report its findings to the President of the Synod as soon as possible; and be it finally

Resolved, That this present resolution replace Resolution 2-35 of the New York convention (*Proceedings*, 1967, p. 96).

Action: Adopted (16).

(A motion to recommit for the purpose of improving New York Resolution 2-35 failed to carry.)

To Study Materials Distributed by Hermeneutics Study Committee and to Request Board of Directors to Consider Providing Funds for Workshops

RESOLUTION 2-29

Report 2-01, I, A, 2, a, b (CW, pp. 57—58); Appendix C (CW, pp. 65—66); Overture 2-61U (URO, p. 6)

WHEREAS, A great deal of tension and confusion ex-

ists in our church today concerning questions of Biblical hermeneutics; and

WHEREAS, The Holy Spirit can use these tensions to further growth in the church through mutual study of the written Word and brotherly confrontation; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations, acting on the instructions of the Synod, has appointed a Hermeneutics Study Committee to undertake a comprehensive study of Scripture and hermeneutics; and

WHEREAS, The Hermeneutics Study Committee is distributing essays which have been completed by its members; and

WHEREAS, The Report of the Hermeneutics Study Committee, contained in Appendix C of the "Report of Commission on Theology and Church Relations," shows that the type of workshop study used by the committee is useful; and

WHEREAS, A greater number of participants in workshops could assist in clarifying the complex problems of Biblical hermeneutics; therefore be it

Resolved, That the materials distributed by the Hermeneutics Study Committee receive critical study by pastoral conferences throughout the Synod, with consideration being given to involving teachers and interested laymen to participate in the study of these materials; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board of Directors, in view of the high priority which the Synod has placed on this matter, be requested to consider the advisability of providing sufficient funds during the next biennium for CTCR-sponsored regional workshops and seminars for our pastors, teachers, and laymen on the subject of Biblical authority and interpretation after patterns for such workshops have been carefully planned and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Appendix

The executive secretary of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations has advised the committee that it is proposed to conduct up to twenty regional workshops in the next biennium at an approximate cost of \$1,000 each to cover expenses such as honoraria for discussion leaders, travel, lodging, and materials.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Receive Expression of Concern to Remain Faithful

RESOLUTION 2-30

Overture 2-30 (CW, pp. 79—81)

WHEREAS, The exhortation from St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clinton, Iowa, expresses concern about a random number of subjects, including doctrine and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has established principles on these subjects and is speaking in this convention to the issues of fellowship; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod thank St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church for its concern and assure it of the Synod's intent to abide by its Scriptural basis.

Action: Adopted (16)

To Review System of Theological Censorship

RESOLUTION 2-31

Overture 2-29 (CW, p. 79)

WHEREAS, There has been a request to change the system of theological censorship established at the New York convention (*Proceedings*, 1967, Resolutions 2-24, p. 94); therefore be it

Resolved, That the Council of Presidents review this matter and report to the next convention.

Action: Referred to the President for action (16).

To Receive Report of Commission on Theology and Church Relations

RESOLUTION 2-32

Report 2-01 (CW, pp. 57—69)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has served the Synod faithfully during the past biennium; and

WHEREAS, The commission's report has been offered to the Synod in the *Convention Workbook*; therefore be it

Resolved, That we receive with thanks the report of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations and commend the members of the commission for their faithful and diligent labors during the past biennium.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Affirm Desire to Follow Orthodoxy

RESOLUTION 2-33

Overture 2-05 (CW, p. 74)

WHEREAS, The charge that The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has become a heterodox church body is a serious charge and demands substantiation; and

WHEREAS, No evidence has been presented in Overture 2-05 to support this charge; and

WHEREAS, In its New York convention the Synod gave adequate guidance for dealing with cases of alleged false teaching (*Proceedings*, 1967, Resolution 2-37, p. 97); therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod affirm its wholehearted desire to follow true Biblical teaching in all its doctrines, teaching, and practice and to reject all false teaching.

Action: Adopted (16).

(The committee agreed to a substitution for "orthodoxy" and "heterodoxy" in the resolved.)

To Study Ministry of Women in Church and Society

RESOLUTION 2-34

Overture 2-71U (URO, p. 9)

WHEREAS, The social revolution in which we are living has implications for the position of women in the church and of the church toward women beyond the matter of the franchise and full membership on boards and committees; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church be directed to conduct a study of the ministry of women in church and society, including any areas where prejudice because of sex may be in evidence; and be it also

Resolved, That the decision as to the scope and the involvement of personnel in this study be left to the Commission on Mission and Ministry.

Action: Referred to the President for action (16).

To Abide by Historic Position on the Word

RESOLUTION 2-35

Overtures 2-58U to 2-60U, 2-69U, 3-343U (URO, pp. 5-6, 8, 33)

WHEREAS, The concern of Overture 2-58U concerning Christ as the Word and the written Word has been answered in response to Overture 2-06; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has refrained from declaring altar and pulpit fellowship with any church body or group that does not accept the canonical books comprising the Bible as the divinely inspired and inerrant Word of God; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod abide by its historic position as set forth in the Constitution of the Synod.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

RESOLUTION 2-36

Overtures 2-65U, 2-66U (URO, pp. 7-8)

WHEREAS, Recognition of the life and service of individuals is the prerogative of local congregations; and

WHEREAS, The canonization of an individual is not the practice of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod thank God for His gift of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to humanity and to the United States in particular; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod refer the recognition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to the discretion of the individual congregations of the Synod.

Action: Declined and then reconsidered and recommended (16).

(Before declining this resolution, the convention refused to strike the first resolved. For the new resolution offered later, see Res. 2-39).

To Request Clarification on "Doctrinal Concerns"

RESOLUTION 2-37

Overture 2-64U (URO, p. 7)

WHEREAS, Serious concerns have been expressed in our Synod with respect to a statement in the document "Doctrinal Concerns" (a statement endorsed by the 1966 general convention of The American Lutheran Church, Oct. 21, 1966), specifically, "to assume that the church can arrive at human concepts or expressions that are in every respect correct is as much a symptom of pride as to assume that the church or its members can achieve sinlessness in their daily lives"; therefore be it

Resolved, That we ask the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to seek clarification of this statement.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Answer Concerns of Trinity Lutheran Church, Austin, Tex.

RESOLUTION 2-38

Overture 2-06 (CW, p. 74)

WHEREAS, Trinity Lutheran Church, Austin, Tex., has referred the question of the inerrancy of Scripture to this convention; and

WHEREAS, This matter has already been referred to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations and will receive additional study (cf. report of CTCR: "Revisions of the Study Document on Revelation, Inspiration, and Inerrancy," p. 4); therefore be it

Resolved, That we affirm our belief in the plenary, verbal inspiration of Scripture, the inerrancy of Scripture, and that Scripture is in all its words and parts the very Word of God, as taught in the Scripture itself (2 Tim. 3: 16; 2 Peter 1: 19-21) and in the Lutheran Confessions (Cleveland, 1962, *Proceedings*, Res. 3-16, p. 104); and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to give high priority to the completion of its studies of the inerrancy of Scripture and the hermeneutical studies which give further clarification to what is meant by "inerrancy."

Action: Adopted (16).

To Recognize the Work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

RESOLUTION 2-39

Overtures 2-65U, 2-66U (URO, pp. 7-8)

Resolved, That the Synod recognize the humanitarian work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in behalf of his people; and be it further

Resolved, That we respectfully decline the last two resolves of Overture 2-65U (URO, p. 7).

Action: *Adopted* (16).

(After the convention had decided to reopen the matter [see Res. 2-36], it adopted this resolution read from the floor by the chairman of Committee 2.)

3. CHURCH RELATIONS

To Approve "An Agreement" for Merger of Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

RESOLUTION 3-01

Report 3-380U (URO, pp. 44—45)

WHEREAS, The Detroit convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (1965) invited the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches to merge with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, The work of a joint committee has resulted in the development of "An Agreement," which has received the signatures of the respective presidents of the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod accept and approve the document "An Agreement" (URO 3-380U); and be it also

Resolved, That we rejoice and thank God for this significant development in the life of these two church bodies and express our joy with a rising vote of thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

(This resolution received a unanimous standing vote on July 12, 1969, 3:10 p.m. See Appendix for full text of "An Agreement.")

To Strengthen Relations with Sister Churches

RESOLUTION 3-02

Report 2-01, II, A (CW, pp. 59—60)

Resolved, That the Synod express its gratitude to God for the blessings of fellowship and friendship enjoyed with sister churches around the world; and be it also

Resolved, That earnest efforts continue to be made to strengthen our relationships with sister churches and to develop more effective channels of communication with all of them through a well-planned program of contacts and conferences.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Initiate Discussions with Lutheran Church of Australia

RESOLUTION 3-03

Report 2-01, II, B (CW, pp. 61—62)

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod join our fellow Lutherans in Australia in praising

God for the union of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Australia in the formation of the Lutheran Church of Australia; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod express appreciation to the Lutheran Church of Australia for her willingness to enter into deliberations with our Synod which, pray God, may lead into pulpit and altar fellowship; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod authorize its president to initiate discussions with the Lutheran Church of Australia (at a mutually accepted time) to the end of establishing altar and pulpit fellowship.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

(Dr. Max Lohe of the Lutheran Church of Australia addressed the convention at this time.)

To Decline to Take Action on Membership in World Council of Churches

RESOLUTION 3-04

Overtures 3-262, 3-263, 3-271 to 3-274 (CW, pp. 195, 198 to 199)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod at its 1967 convention instructed the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to conduct a study of the World Council of Churches and prepare appropriate guidelines; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has not been able to complete the study and guidelines; therefore be it

Resolved, That we decline to take action at this time on the matter of joining the World Council of Churches.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Continue Discussions with Lutheran Church in America

RESOLUTION 3-05

Action: *This resolution was referred back (2) to the committee for specific definition of the word "consensus." It was resubmitted as Res. 3-13.*

To Study National Council of Churches

RESOLUTION 3-06

Overtures 3-266 to 3-269 (CW, pp. 196—198)

WHEREAS, An evaluation of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. has been requested; therefore be it

Resolved, That we request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to arrange for a study of the basis, structure, and operations of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. and report their findings to a future convention of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Prepare Guidelines for Participation in Local Councils

RESOLUTION 3-07

Overture 3-270 (CW, p. 198)

WHEREAS, An increasing number of congregations and pastors are participating in local councils of churches and ministerial associations; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Commission on Theology and Church Relations be requested to prepare guidelines to assist congregations and pastors in determining the nature and extent of their participation in such local councils of churches and ministerial associations.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Review Structure and Functions of Commission on Theology and Church Relations

RESOLUTION 3-08

Report 2-01, III (CW, p. 63); Overture 2-75U (URO, p. 11)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations has rendered invaluable service in our Synod during the past 7 years; and

WHEREAS, The commission has suggested that the time has come to review various questions concerning its structure and functions, which were largely dictated by the needs of the church in 1962; therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the President of the Synod to review the adequacy of the present structure and functions of the commission; and be it further

Resolved, That this review committee include theological professors and laymen; and be it further

Resolved, That this committee undertake its review in consultation with members of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations; and be it finally

Resolved, That this review committee make appropriate recommendations to the 1971 synodical convention.

Action: Adopted (4).

(An amendment specifically to include "pastors" in the second resolved failed to carry, since the committee stated that the intent was that pastors be included.)

To Establish Procedure for Initiating Fellowship Discussions

RESOLUTION 3-09

Report 2-01, II, C (CW, pp. 62—63)

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility and must be the desire of the Synod to grasp every opportunity God offers for approaches to other Christians, especially such as appear to have a confessional basis in harmony with the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, There is at present no agency or officer of the Synod charged with the responsibility of initiating and promoting approaches of this nature; therefore be it

Resolved, That this activity be made the responsibility of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations working under the direction of the President of the Synod.

Action: Adopted (4).

(An amendment to insert "and practice" after "confessional basis" in the first whereas was lost.)

To Decline Overtures re Joint Endeavors

RESOLUTION 3-10

Overtures 3-344U, 3-345U (URO, pp. 33—34)

WHEREAS, The distinction between "sacred" and "secular" admits of a variety of interpretations; and

WHEREAS, The Synod is necessarily involved in a variety of joint endeavors with other groups, endeavors which do not compromise the Synod's confessional position; therefore be it

Resolved, That these overtures be declined.

Action: Adopted (4).

To Continue to Participate in LCUSA

RESOLUTION 3-11

Report 2-01 II, B; Overtures 3-02 to 3-16 (CW, pp. 60, 95—99); 3-280U, 3-281U, 3-301U, 3-318U (URO, pp. 13, 19, 22)

WHEREAS, LCUSA is an agency of its constituent church bodies; and

WHEREAS, LCUSA functions in behalf of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod only when the Synod officially requests the council to do so; and

WHEREAS, The performance of LCUSA in the few years of its existence has been commendable; and

WHEREAS, Steps have been taken to insure adherence to prescribed procedures; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod thank God for the blessings bestowed on His church through LCUSA; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod continue to participate in LCUSA; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod inform its congregations more fully about the programs and activities of LCUSA; and be it finally

Resolved, That in preparation for future conventions formal reports of the representatives to LCUSA be submitted in time to be included in the *Convention Workbook* as provided by the New York convention resolution and Bylaw 16.01.

Action: Adopted as amended (7).

(The convention declined to consider a substitute motion. It did, however, add the final resolved.)

To Encourage Discussions with Other Christian Groups

RESOLUTION 3-12

Report 2-01, II, C (CW, pp. 62—63)

WHEREAS, The Mission Affirmations of the Detroit convention state that the Lutheran Church is a confessional movement within Christendom and indicate the responsibilities of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod as a part of that movement; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Synod on every level be encouraged to continue their interest and participation in all interchurch dialog that permits a clear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as set forth in Holy Scripture and explicated by the Lutheran Confessions; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod encourage both pastoral conferences and lay study groups to study and discuss the materials already published as well as any that may be produced in the process of further interchurch conversations in which we are participants.

Action: Adopted (15).

To Continue Discussions with Lutheran Church in America

RESOLUTION 3-13

Report 2-01, II, B (CW, pp. 60—61); Overture 3-249, (CW, pp. 191—192)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod resolved in its 1967 convention (Resolution 3-02, 1967 *Proceedings*) that "its President and the Commission on Theology and Church Relations earnestly invite Lutheran churches in America with whom we are not in fellowship to join in mutual love and confidence with our church in consultation with a view to removing the causes of misunderstanding and separation"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod endorse the efforts of President Harms in seeking consultation with the Lutheran Church in America and gratefully recognize that two meetings have been held; and be it also

Resolved, That the President of the Synod and the Commission on Theology and Church Relations be encouraged to continue discussions with the Lutheran Church in America for the purpose of seeking a God-pleasing fellowship.

Action: Adopted (15).

(Res. 3-05 had been referred back to the committee in Session 2. The committee resubmitted it with a change in the final words, which had read originally: "... with a view toward finding the consensus necessary for the establishment of altar and pulpit fellowship.")

To Apply for Membership in Lutheran World Federation

RESOLUTION 3-14

Report 2-01, II, B; Apps. D and E; Overtures 3-250 to 3-261, 3-279 (CW, pp. 60, 66—69, 192—195, 200); 3-299U, 3-300U, 3-317U, 3-335U, 3-336U, 3-356U, 3-357U (URO, pp. 18, 22, 30, 39—40)

WHEREAS, The nature, function, and scope of the Lutheran World Federation according to its revised constitution of 1963 afford The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod an opportunity to add its voice to the witness of confessional Lutheranism to the Christian community and to the world as an implementation of the Mission Affirmations adopted by the Synod in 1965; and

WHEREAS, The thorough study of the doctrinal basis of the Lutheran World Federation by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations revealed no Biblical or confessional obstacles to membership; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention instruct the Synod's President to make application for membership in the Lutheran World Federation; and be it further

Resolved, To ask the President to transmit to the executive committee of the Lutheran World Federation the CTCR's report and summary statement to make clear the Synod's understanding of the nature of the Lutheran World Federation and the significance of membership in it; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod participate in the projects and activities of the Lutheran World Federation as her resources permit; and be it finally

Resolved, That in loving concern for all the sister churches of the Synod the convention ask the President to transmit to them the CTCR's report and summary statement as well as a copy of this convention resolution.

Action: Declined (15).

(A motion in Session 15 to vote on this resolution by ballot carried by a standing vote of 394 to 338. Since the order of the day called for the continuation of the report of Committee 3, a motion to postpone action on this resolution was ruled out of order. No challenge to the ruling was offered. In the balloting Res. 3-14 was defeated: 272 for, 620 against.)

To Declare Altar and Pulpit Fellowship with The American Lutheran Church

RESOLUTION 3-15

Reports 2-01, II, B; 3-01; Overtures 3-18 to 3-39, 3-84 to 3-243, 3-277, 3-278 (CW, pp. 61, 94—95, 99—107, 125—189, 199); 3-285U to 3-298U, 3-302U, 3-303U, 3-305U to 3-316U, 3-319U to 3-323U, 3-326U to 3-334U, 3-340U, 3-346U to 3-355U, 3-358U, 3-362U, 3-363U, 3-366U to 3-379U, 3-382U, 3-386U, 3-387U (URO, pp. 14—29, 32, 34—44, 46—47)

Preamble

As we consider altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church, we do well to state clearly

what we mean when we use the term "fellowship," particularly in the context of relationships between church bodies.

We understand that fellowship between church bodies is based on a common and mutual acceptance, understanding and practice of the Gospel and the sacraments, understanding the term "Gospel" as it is used in the Augsburg Confession, Article VII. [Augsburg Confession, Article V, which speaks of the Gospel and sacraments as instruments of the Holy Spirit for the creation of faith, is helpful toward understanding the meaning of "Gospel" in Augsburg Confession, Article VII.] Where such agreement and understanding exist between church bodies, they may and should establish altar and pulpit fellowship.

With the establishment of fellowship each church body retains its separate identity and organizational structure, procedures, and policies. It is understood that the declaration of fellowship will not infringe upon or interfere with the rights of congregations and church bodies to determine their exercise of pastoral care and discipline. However, also in this respect church bodies in fellowship should earnestly work toward a common approach and practice in such matters. There must exist between such church bodies a mutual trust that congregational and synodical regulations in governing the expression and exercise of pastoral care will be recognized and respected by all concerned.

A congregation of one church body may call as its pastor a clergyman of the other church body, provided that prior consultation has resulted in mutual approval by the respective administrative officials of both church bodies involved in such a call. The establishment of fellowship does not imply the indiscriminate calling of pastors across synodical lines. A congregation and its pastor shall belong to the same church body and be subject to the discipline of that church body.

Where fellowship exists between church bodies, this will express itself in various ways:

1. Pastors in good standing in each church body may be invited to preach from the pulpits of congregations of the other church body.

2. Congregations of church bodies in fellowship may hold joint worship services.

3. Members of the congregations of each church body who are in good standing in their own congregation and do not violate principles regulating Communion practices in the host congregation shall be welcome as guests at the altar of congregations of the other church body. In the interest of the pastoral care and responsibility of the

congregation of which an individual is a member, there should not be an indiscriminate visiting of the altars of churches either within his own church body or at the altars of congregations of that church body with which his church is in fellowship.

4. Members in good standing may transfer their membership from a congregation of one church body to a congregation of the other church body in conformity with the practices of the receiving congregation.

(Statement accepted in substance by the national and District presidents of both The American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at a joint meeting in Minneapolis, Feb. 25—26, 1969)

With this understanding we offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, According to the Scriptures, Christian fellowship is the gracious gift of God and signifies a fellowship in Christ and in the Gospel which calls upon Christians to confess their one Lord with one mind and one voice and to live together in unity and mutual assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Confessions declare: "It is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian church that the Gospel be preached in conformity with a pure understanding of it and the sacraments be administered in accordance with the divine Word" (Augsburg Confession VII); and

WHEREAS, This statement in the Augsburg Confession VII defines the necessary and sufficient basis for fellowship and turns our eyes to the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and this Gospel makes us Christians, builds the church, and holds the church together amid so many forces which seek to tear it apart; and

WHEREAS, Our church looks to Augsburg Confession VII for instruction and guidance with respect to sound Biblical and Lutheran principles for the establishment of pulpit and altar fellowship with The American Lutheran Church (cf. Fred Kramer, *The Fellowship Principle According to Augustana VII*, p. 3); and



Committee 3 ponders a point

WHEREAS, The New York convention, 1967, adopted Resolution 3-23: "Resolved, That the Synod recognize that the Scriptural and confessional basis for altar and pulpit fellowship between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and The American Lutheran Church exists, that the Synod proceed to take the necessary steps toward full realization of altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church, and that the Synod invite the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches to join with us in the same"; and

WHEREAS, Since the New York convention many meetings have been held within The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and in conjunction with members of The American Lutheran Church for the purpose of discussing the issues of altar and pulpit fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The "Recommendation of President and Council of Presidents on ALC Fellowship" states: "Our prolonged study and discussion has produced the conviction that we agree in the preaching of the Gospel 'in conformity with a pure understanding of it' and in the administration of the sacraments 'according to the divine Word.' Our discussions have led us to the conviction that we are in the tradition of true Lutherans who are committed to the Holy Scriptures and who subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions. We are persuaded that we share a mutual desire to strengthen a united evangelical proclamation and to develop a consistently evangelical practice" (CW, p. 94); and

WHEREAS, The convention of The American Lutheran Church (Omaha, 1968) has resolved to be in fellowship with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Holy Spirit has led us to recognize this agreement in the Gospel so that we may confidently look for further blessings and benefits upon our churches as they manifest their fellowship ("Joint Statement and Declaration"); therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod express gratitude to God for creating this unity among us, and we beseech Him to increase our awareness of this great gift; and be it further

Resolved, That with joy and praise to God the Synod herewith formally declare itself to be in altar and pulpit fellowship with The American Lutheran Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod reiterate the pledge made in the "Joint Statement and Declaration" to seek a unified evangelical position and practice on the basis of our commitment to the Gospel; that to this end the Synod propose the creation of an intersynodical commission to assist in the proper understanding and practice of fellowship, to supply counsel and aid as a support to the pastoral ministries carried on in the synods, and to suggest appropriate means by which the members of our synods may grow in their understanding and practice of fellowship; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod authorize its President, in consultation with the president of The American Lutheran Church, to announce the establishment of

altar and pulpit fellowship between their respective church bodies and to make suggestions for the appropriate implementation of the worthy purposes of this declaration; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod thank the officers, pastors, and congregations of The American Lutheran Church for their many acts of courtesy and kindness toward us and especially for their willingness to meet with us for doctrinal discussions; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod commit itself to the following

Conclusion:

We, the members of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, rejoice over the existing unity of faith and confession, as stated in the doctrinal position of The American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, and we embrace the opportunities and assume the obligations of altar and pulpit fellowship. Recognizing that because of our sinfulness and human frailties there remain imperfections in faith and understanding of the riches of God's grace, as well as failings in life and practice consistent with the Gospel, we pledge ourselves to draw these and all other problems affecting our relationships into the perspective of God's grace as revealed in the divine Word and deal with them within that framework. We pledge ourselves always to have a tender regard for each other's consciences and to stand by each other in mutual sympathy and understanding, forbearance and love.

As members of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, committed to the Holy Gospel, we obligate ourselves to continued study and discussion, always remembering that we, in the love of Christ, must "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

Action: Adopted (12).

(When Committee 3 reported in Session 7, it was successfully moved from the floor to vote by ballot on any resolution deciding the question of fellowship with The ALC. A motion to have proponents use odd-numbered microphones and opponents the even-numbered failed to carry. A motion to limit speaking from the floor to one minute was amended to 3 minutes and adopted. When Res. 3-15 was presented by the floor committee later in the same session, its adoption was moved and seconded. Mr. Richard C. Hannenberg then requested permission of the chair to read a minority report [Res. 3-15A] signed by 11 members of the floor committee. The request was granted, and the minority report was read. The motion was then carried to invite President-elect J. A. O. Preus to address the convention on the fellowship question, if he so desired, and to waive the 3-minute rule for him.

When the matter again came before the assembly in Session 9, it was moved and seconded to suspend the rules and set aside the agenda and to continue discussing the fellowship question until a decision was reached. There were 485 in favor, 369 against the motion. Since the motion required a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote, it was lost. President Harms announced that Dr. Preus had declined the request to make a statement at this time but might wish to do so later. It was resolved to limit each speaker to 2 minutes.

During continuing discussion in Session 11 Dr. Preus did make his statement. He voiced concern particularly for the doctrine of the Word of God, saying that he favored a delay to give opportunity for further study of this subject. However, he called upon delegates to vote according to their conscience and promised to abide by the decision of this con-

vention, pledging himself to use strenuous efforts to draw all Lutherans together. The time had almost elapsed when a motion for the previous question was carried. Ballots were distributed. It was resolved that the counting of the ballots be postponed until the convention would reconvene on the following morning. Dr. Oliver Harms was given a standing ovation for the way in which he had conducted the discussions.

In Session 12 Chairman Arlen Bruns of the Committee on Elections announced the following results: 961 ballots cast; 522 for; 438 against; 1 blank. The announcement of the affirmative vote was greeted with applause, for which the assembly stood. The chair declared the resolution adopted. The assembly sang the first stanza of "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past."

Several speakers called for unity now that the issue had been resolved. A delegate moved that the convention by a standing vote assure the President-elect of unity of purpose and intent. This was done. Dr. Preus responded from the podium stating that the Synod had spoken, that he would support and carry out its decision and set himself to the task of healing. This was greeted with a standing ovation.

In response to a request from a layman for a congregational referendum, the chair stated that the vote on this resolution was the legal expression of the Synod and that a referendum would be pointless.)

RESOLUTION 3-15A (MINORITY REPORT)

The undersigned, a minority of Committee 3 — Church Relations, not agreeing with the majority, desire to express their views in this case:

WHEREAS, We have been working and praying that the Holy Spirit would direct The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to a God-pleasing fellowship with The American Lutheran Church; and

WHEREAS, Extensive contacts and discussions have shown a wide divergence between The American Lutheran Church constitutional statements and the teaching and preaching practices in the areas of Scripture, ecumenical principles, and lodgery; and

WHEREAS, No official statement of agreement has been published as a result of the joint meeting of the theological faculties of The American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, We deplore the lack of basic theological discussions toward Scriptural agreement between The American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church in America which The American Lutheran Church agreed was necessary in dealing with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod recognized both proper principles and improper involvements, in 1940, when it stated: "We do not see how the Missouri Synod could enter into church fellowship with The American Lutheran Church if the latter establishes fellowship with a church body which does not share our joint doctrinal basis" (*Documents of Lutheran Unity in America*, R. C. Wolf, Document 164, p. 405); and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Synod, Article VI, point 2, and the *Brief Statement* of our Synod have made it obligatory that there be full agreement in doctrine and practice before declaring pulpit fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Fellowship with The American Lutheran Church would involve us with all the fellowship commitments of The American Lutheran Church, such as

Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, and other associations, as well as fellowship with the Lutheran Church in America; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank The American Lutheran Church for their willingness to meet for doctrinal discussions; and that we indicate to The American Lutheran Church our sincere desire, fervent prayers, and pledge our willingness to continued effort and work toward a God-pleasing fellowship; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend our Synod's officials, conferences of pastors, and congregations for their interest in and efforts toward implementation of Resolution 3-23 (New York) by joint discussions; and be it further

Resolved, That our Synod encourage continuation and extension of such discussions with The American Lutheran Church at all levels; and be it finally

Resolved, That the President of the Synod, together with the Council of Presidents, recommend to a future convention a declaration of altar and pulpit fellowship at a time when there is a greater unanimity of spirit which would lead to appropriate action.

RICHARD HANNENBERG	OSWALDO SCHUELER
O. E. KROHN	JAMES H. MAXWELL
FREDERICK KEMPFFERT	H. W. BAXMANN
HARRY L. MUMM	KARL J. JAECH
GEO. D. FROHNAPFEL	ROBERT M. HESS
BERNARD F. FARMER	

Action: None.

(See note following Res. 3-15.)

To Establish Fellowship with Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada

RESOLUTION 3-16

Report 2-01, II, B; Overtures 3-264 (CW, pp. 62, 196); 3-337U to 3-339U, 3-341U, 3-358U, 3-359U, 3-364U, 3-365U, 3-383U to 3-385U (URO, pp. 30—33, 40—42, 47)

Preamble

As we consider altar and pulpit fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada, we do well to state clearly what we mean when we use the term, "fellowship," particularly in the context of relationships between church bodies.

We understand that fellowship between church bodies is based on a common and mutual acceptance, understanding and practice of the Gospel and the sacraments, understanding the term "Gospel" as it is used in the Augsburg Confession, Article VII. [Augsburg Confession, Article V, which speaks of the Gospel and sacraments as instruments of the Holy Spirit for the creation of faith, is helpful toward understanding the meaning of "Gospel" in Augsburg Confession, Article VII.] Where such agreement and understanding exist between church bodies, they may and should establish altar and pulpit fellowship.

With the establishment of fellowship each church body retains its separate identity and organizational structure, procedures, and policies. It is understood that the declaration of fellowship will not infringe upon or interfere with the rights of congregations and church bodies to determine their exercise of pastoral care and discipline. However, also in this respect church bodies in fellowship

should earnestly work toward a common approach and practice in such matters. There must exist between such church bodies a mutual trust that congregational and synodical regulations in governing the expression and exercise of pastoral care will be recognized and respected by all concerned.

A congregation of one church body may call as its pastor a clergyman of the other church body, provided that prior consultation has resulted in mutual approval by the respective administrative officials of both church bodies involved in such a call. The establishment of fellowship does not imply the indiscriminate calling of pastors across synodical lines. A congregation and its pastor shall belong to the same church body and be subject to the discipline of that church body.

Where fellowship exists between church bodies, this will express itself in various ways:

1. Pastors in good standing in each church body may be invited to preach from the pulpits of congregations of the other church body.

2. Congregations of church bodies in fellowship may hold joint worship services.

3. Members of the congregations of each church body who are in good standing in their own congregation and do not violate principles regulating Communion practices in the host congregation shall be welcome as guests at the altar of congregations of the other church body. In the interest of the pastoral care and responsibility of the congregation of which an individual is a member, there should not be an indiscriminate visiting of the altars of churches either within his own church body or at the altars of congregations of that church body with which his church is in fellowship.

4. Members in good standing may transfer their membership from a congregation of one church body to a congregation of the other church body in conformity with the practices of the receiving congregation.

(Statement accepted in substance by the national and District presidents of both The American Lutheran Church and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod at a joint meeting in Minneapolis, Feb. 25—26, 1969)

With this understanding we offer the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The three Canadian Districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have formed the Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC) for the purpose of expediting their work; and

WHEREAS, In 1966 the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada (ELCC), formerly a district of The American Lutheran Church, became an autonomous church body; and

WHEREAS, The LCC and the ELCC have examined each other's constitutions and found the confessional basis to be adequate for altar and pulpit fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has reviewed the Constitutional Articles of Faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada and found them to be "both Scriptural and adequate"; and

WHEREAS, For several decades doctrinal discussions between the LCC and ELCC, carried on in various local, regional, and national meetings, have disclosed and strengthened a genuine consensus in faith and understanding; and

WHEREAS, At its convention in June 1968 the ELCC unanimously offered altar and pulpit fellowship to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, The 1968 conventions of the Canadian Dis-

tricts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod authorized Lutheran Church—Canada to make appropriate recommendations to the Denver convention; and

WHEREAS, The LCC, through the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, requests The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to declare altar and pulpit fellowship with the ELCC to enable the LCC and the ELCC to give full expression to the unity that God has given them; therefore be it

Resolved, That with gratitude for the Holy Spirit's guidance and blessing The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod establish altar and pulpit fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada; and be it also

Resolved, That through existing channels of inter-church relations the Lutheran Church—Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada be encouraged to exercise a mutual ministry to strengthen their understanding and practice of fellowship; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod commit itself to the following

Conclusion:

We, the members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, rejoice over the existing unity of faith and confession, as stated in the doctrinal position of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and we embrace the opportunities and assume the obligations of altar and pulpit fellowship. Recognizing that because of our sinfulness and human frailties there remain imperfections in faith and understanding of the riches of God's grace, as well as failings in life and practice consistent with the Gospel, we pledge ourselves to draw these and all other problems affecting our relationships into the perspective of God's grace as revealed in the divine Word and deal with them within that framework. We pledge ourselves always to have a tender regard for each other's consciences and to stand by each other in mutual sympathy and understanding, forbearance and love.

As members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, committed to the Holy Gospel, we obligate ourselves to continued study and discussion, always remembering that we, in the love of Christ, must "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

Action: Adopted as amended (12).

(Amendment: To add to this resolution the preamble and conclusion of Res. 3-15.)

To Pursue Unity Between Lutheran Church—Canada and Lutheran Church in America—Canada Section

RESOLUTION 3-17

Report 2-01, II, B; Overture 3-265 (CW, pp. 62, 196)

WHEREAS, Lutheran Church—Canada, made up of the three Districts of The Lutheran Church—Missouri

Synod in Canada, has engaged in doctrinal discussions with the Lutheran Church in America — Canada section for the purpose of seeking and strengthening Lutheran unity and wishes to continue such discussions; and

WHEREAS, The Synod in 1965 (Resolution 3-04) authorized its mission churches in other countries to explore and negotiate fellowship relations in their own right but has made no similar provision for the Districts located in Canada and South America; and

WHEREAS, The Synod in 1965 (Resolution 4-28) recognized the need for granting increasing independence to the Districts in Canada by sanctioning and granting special status to them in Lutheran Church — Canada; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church in America — Canada section has conveyed to Lutheran Church — Canada its desire to pursue doctrinal discussions as a means to furthering Lutheran unity in accordance with the requirements of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations in its report to this convention (CW, pp. 62, 14a, 14b) has recommended the action proposed below; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod authorize and encourage Lutheran Church — Canada through its committee on relations with other churches and in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to pursue the quest for Lutheran unity with the Lutheran Church in America — Canada section on the basis of Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and be it also

Resolved, That any requests for official synodical action which might result from these discussions be conveyed to the Synod at the appropriate time and according to appropriate synodical procedures.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

To Refrain from Selective Fellowship

RESOLUTION 3-18

Overtures 3-40 to 3-43 (CW, pp. 107—109)

WHEREAS, The members of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod have voluntarily united in a fraternal agreement to determine fellowship relations with other church bodies or congregations, not individually but through convention action (*Handbook* 1.21); and

WHEREAS, The Synod has urged all its members to refrain from exercising local congregational option in regard to fellowship (cf. 1967 Convention *Proceedings*, Resolution 2-18, p. 92); and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Theology and Church Relations is presently preparing a report of its study of all aspects of interchurch relations; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod urge all its members to honor their fraternal agreement with all members of

the Synod by refraining from practicing altar and pulpit fellowship with congregations of church bodies with whom the Synod has not yet declared fellowship.

Action: *Adopted (15).*

To Decline Overtures Calling for Restructuring Lutheranism

RESOLUTION 3-19

Overtures 3-247, 3-248 (CW, pp. 190—191)

WHEREAS, The organization of a Synod is a human arrangement subject to legal contracts and controls; and

WHEREAS, A total restructuring of all Lutheran church bodies would involve insurmountable difficulties; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overtures 3-247 and 3-248 be declined.

Action: *Adopted (15).*

To Seek Reestablishment of Fraternal Relations with Evangelical Lutheran Synod and Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

RESOLUTION 3-20

Overture 3-342U (URO, p. 33)

WHEREAS, The Synod is committed to the conservation and promotion of the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10) and a united defense against schism and sectarianism (Rom. 16:17) (Constitution, Article III, 1); and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod through its President has continued to extend invitations to the ELS and the WELS to have discussions toward the reestablishment of fellowship; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention commend President Harms for his continued concerns to this end; and be it also

Resolved, That such efforts be continued.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Study Inter-Lutheran Relations

RESOLUTION 3-21

Overtures 3-244 to 3-246 (CW, pp. 189—190)

WHEREAS, These overtures raise issues that should be studied more fully than is possible at this convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod request the Commission on Theology and Church Relations to study these issues in their historical and theological perspective and report its findings with appropriate recommendations.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

(An amendment to call for a report in 1971 failed to carry.)

To Seek Guidance from "Theology of Fellowship" for Interchurch Relations

RESOLUTION 3-22

Overtures 2-32, 2-33, 3-275, 3-276 (CW, pp. 81—82, 199)

WHEREAS, In relationships among Christians who are not in official church fellowship circumstances arise for which no special course of action can be prescribed; and

WHEREAS, "Theology of Fellowship" (Part 3, C) provides guidelines for a proper course of action in such circumstances; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage the study of "Theology of Fellowship" for guidance.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Accept Part II ("Church Relations") of Report of Commission on Theology and Church Relations

RESOLUTION 3-23

Report 2-01, II (CW, pp. 59—63)

Resolved, That the Synod accept Part II ("Church Relations") of the report of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Action: Adopted (16).

4. SYNODICAL ADMINISTRATION

To Accept Report of First Vice-President

RESOLUTION 4-01

Report 4-02 (CW, p. 201)

Resolved, That the Synod accept the report of the First Vice-President; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod express its thankfulness to the Lord for providing the Synod with the many talents of Doctor Roland P. Wiederaenders in fulfilling the varied requirements of his office; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod commend him in particular for his leadership of the colloquy committee.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Accept Report of Board of Directors

RESOLUTION 4-02

Report 4-03 I, II, III (CW, pp. 201—204)

WHEREAS, The report of the Board of Directors gives evidence of faithful and competent performance in seeking to carry out the directives of the Synod during the past biennium; therefore be it

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Directors be gratefully accepted.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Establish General Principles for Formation or Realignment of Districts

RESOLUTION 4-03

Report 4-03, IV, A (CW, p. 204)

WHEREAS, The formation of new Districts or realignment of existing Districts is a process that should be guided by general principles established by the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following statements be accepted as general principles for judging the viability of a proposed new or realigned District:

A viable District —

1. offers adequate parish services;
2. provides adequate mission development, guidance, and support;
3. is adaptable and flexible in meeting new and various needs for ministry;
4. has boundaries corresponding to the major communications spheres in a given area;
5. centers in a metropolitan area and has boundaries and internal structures adapted to the metropolitan areas within its boundaries;
6. evidences balance rather than mere homogeneity;
7. is compact in terms of travel patterns and travel times;
8. has sufficient potential financial resources for its own programs and for the support of the synodical ministries;
9. is large enough to be effective and efficient;
10. has general acceptance by the constituency involved.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Make Additions to Bylaw 3.03 Governing Formation and Realignment of Districts

RESOLUTION 4-04

Report 4-03, IV, A (CW, p. 204)

WHEREAS, There appears to be an increasing need for general principles of procedure and viability to serve as guidelines for the formation of new Districts or for the realignment of existing Districts; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors, acting upon instruction of the New York convention, has studied this matter and has developed general principles for these purposes; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following additions be made to Section 3.03 of the Bylaws:

3.03 Formation and Realignment of Districts

a. The Synod decides when and whether a District shall be formed, divided, realigned, or merged with another or other Districts, or dissolved; determines the boundaries of a District; and approves the name of a District.

b. A proposal calling for the formation, division, realignment, merger, or dissolution of a District or Districts may be

initiated by a synodical convention or may be presented to a synodical convention by a District convention or the synodical Board of Directors.

c. Such proposals shall —

1. be submitted to the President at least 6 months prior to a synodical convention;

2. be produced in consultation with the Department of Research and Statistics;

3. include a substantiated description of the nonviable aspects of the current District(s) on the basis of general principles of viability adopted from time to time by synodical conventions, and shall specify the problems or factors which make the adoption of the proposal advisable or necessary;

4. provide evidence that possible changes in the present structure or function of the District(s) in order to meet the problems have received thorough consideration and have been deemed less desirable than the proposal being offered;

5. provide a specific and realistic development plan for the proposed District(s), including detailed proposals for staff personnel and financial operations;

6. be the object of an evaluation prepared by the synodical Board of Directors and submitted to the convention.

Action: *Adopted in form given above (5).*

(The wording "general principles" was accepted instead of "criteria" by the committee in the first whereas.)

To Decline Election of a Committee on Review of Convention Resolutions

RESOLUTION 4-05

Overture 4-09 (CW, pp. 212—213)

WHEREAS, Every delegate to a synodical convention is pledged to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, All convention floor committees are composed of such delegates and are held to carry out their tasks in accordance with their confessional commitment; and

WHEREAS, The discussion and consideration of proposed resolutions prior to decision provides ample opportunity for examination of doctrinal content by the convention at large before action; and

WHEREAS, The implementation of the proposed plan would delay the work of the convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention decline to elect a committee to review the doctrinal content of proposed convention resolutions.

Action: *Adopted (5).*

To Accept Report of Synodical Service Commission

RESOLUTION 4-06

Report 4-05 (CW, p. 210)

Resolved, That the report of the Synodical Service Commission be accepted; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod express its gratitude to the members of the Synodical Service Commission for their work in screening nominations for executive offices in the church.

Action: *Referred to Board of Directors for action (16).*

To Accept Report of Department of Research and Statistics

RESOLUTION 4-07

Report 4-06 (CW, pp. 211—212)

Resolved, That the Synod accept the report of the Department of Research and Statistics; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod express its thanks to this department for progress made in developing its program; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod encourage organizations within the Synod to use the services and reports of this department.

Action: *Referred to Board of Directors for action (16).*

To Decline Charge for Filing or Printing Overtures

RESOLUTION 4-08

Overture 4-08 (CW, p. 212)

WHEREAS, The right of authorized parties to submit overtures should not be impeded in any way; and

WHEREAS, This method would not be a desirable or effective way of controlling the volume and content of the *Convention Workbook*; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod decline to charge for filing and printing overtures.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

(A motion to consider Overture 4-08 as a substitute motion succeeded but the motion to adopt Overture 4-08 failed to carry. The recommendation of the committee was then adopted.)

To Increase Membership of Stewardship Board

RESOLUTION 4-09

Overture 4-14 (CW, pp. 215—216)

WHEREAS, The Stewardship Board of the Synod is persuaded that its membership is too small to plan and implement effectively its broad and varied programs of service to the congregations of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the membership of the Stewardship Board of the Synod be increased from five to seven members; and be it further

Resolved, That the enlarged board be composed of three pastors, three laymen, and one called teacher; and be it finally

Resolved, That the vacancies thus created be filled by the Stewardship Board, subject to the approval of the President (cp. Bylaw 2.08 a).

Action: *Adopted (11).*

**To Decline to Reduce All Synodical
and District Boards to Maximum
of 9 Members**

RESOLUTION 4-10

Overture 4-21 (CW, p. 217)

WHEREAS, The responsibilities and work loads of the many synodical and District boards vary considerably, making it unwise to place rigid restrictions on the maximum size of District and synodical boards; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 4-21 be declined.

Action: *Adopted (11).*

RESOLUTION 4-11

(This resolution, which called for a review of the structure and functions of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, was struck from the record by action of the convention in Session 12 because the matter was already before the convention in Res. 3-08. See Overture 2-75U.)

**To Decline to Recess and Reconvene
This Convention**

RESOLUTION 4-12

Overture 4-30 (CW, p. 220)

WHEREAS, A procedure for supervision of doctrine and practice is established in the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The procedure proposed to recess this convention for an extended period and then reconvene it is not practical or feasible; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention decline to recess and to reconvene for a 3-day session.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

**To Implement Autonomy for Lutheran
Church — Canada**

RESOLUTION 4-13

Overture 4-12 (CW, p. 215)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has in previous conventions (Cleveland, Resolution 6-36, and Detroit, Resolution 4-28) encouraged Lutheran Church — Canada to proceed with plans to build up a strong, indigenous Lutheran church in Canada; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod herewith grants authority to Lutheran Church — Canada together with the officials of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for the implementation of autonomy of Lutheran Church — Canada in accord with the constitution of each body.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

(Originally the final words of this resolution had been: "... contingent on the favorable result of a forthcoming

referendum of congregations of the Lutheran Church — Canada." The resolution was recommitted in Session 12 to clarify the question of the constitutionality of a referendum. The convention adopted the new version presented by the committee in Session 13.)

**To Adopt Report on Synodical
Headquarters**

RESOLUTION 4-14

Reports 4-03, IV, C (CW, p. 204); 4-36U (URO, pp. 48—49)

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the Synod has followed the instructions of the New York convention (4-31) and has completed the studies concerning the location of synodical headquarters; and

WHEREAS, The findings of the board indicate St. Louis to be the preferable area; and

WHEREAS, Suitable facilities for expansion on an economical basis are available; therefore be it

Resolved, That the headquarters of the Synod continue to be located in the St. Louis area; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be encouraged to purchase property that will provide adequate space for synodical headquarters.

Action: *Adopted (5).*

**To Develop Systematic Mailing Arrangement
for Synodical Materials**

RESOLUTION 4-15

Overture 4-26 (CW, p. 218)

WHEREAS, There appears to be value in having a unified mailing arrangement for materials from synodical boards, commissions, and agencies; and

WHEREAS, There are many problems associated with the proposal (scheduling, format, reader impact, etc); and

WHEREAS, The Coordinating Committee for Parish Services, functioning under the Council of Administrators, is currently conducting a study of a unified mailing arrangement; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Council of Administrators be directed to complete its study, including consultation with the field, and inaugurate whatever system of mailings will in its judgment best serve the interests of the Synod.

Action: *Referred to the Council of Administrators for action (16).*

**To Study Changes in Program of Fiscal
Review Commission**

RESOLUTION 4-16

Overture 4-23 (CW, p. 218)

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the elected officers of the Fiscal Review Commission to establish the

agenda for the meeting of the commission (*Handbook* 9.11 c); therefore be it

Resolved, That the officers of the Fiscal Review Commission be instructed to give serious study in their planning of the agenda for the meetings of this commission in accordance with the suggestions made in Overture 4-23.

Action: Referred to Board of Directors for action (16).

To Give Representation to Minorities on Synodical and District Boards and Commissions

RESOLUTION 4-17

Overture 4-32 (CW, p. 221)

WHEREAS, The concept of the communion of saints implies the participation of all of the church's membership in its life and work; and

WHEREAS, Christian stewardship, integrity and brotherly love require that all talents within the church's membership be used; and

WHEREAS, The witness of the church in society is strengthened by representative involvement at responsible levels of all of its members; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod instruct its officials to give special attention to representation of minority groups within its membership at policy-making and administrative levels of the Synod, its Districts, and congregations.

Action: Adopted (12).

To Follow Established Procedure in Investigating Several Complaints

RESOLUTION 4-18

Overture 4-39U (URO, p. 53)

WHEREAS, "Taking part in the services and sacramental rites of heterodox congregations or of congregations of mixed confession," and other forms of unionism (*Constitution*, Art. VI), as well as deviations in practice from the Synod's position on the lodge (*Handbook* 14.07, pp. 213—214), are matters of serious concern; and

WHEREAS, Allegations concerning the violation of these requirements and negligence in their enforcement have been made; therefore be it

Resolved, That the individual proposing the investigation of these complaints be advised to follow established procedure as set forth in the synodical *Handbook* (Art. XIII, p. 24, and 5.31, p. 113).

Action: Adopted (13).

To Retain Pattern of Biennial Conventions **RESOLUTION 4-19**

Overture 4-07 (CW, p. 212)

WHEREAS, The present convention is only the second convened biennially; and

WHEREAS, There has been insufficient time and opportunity to test adequately the effectiveness of biennial conventions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod decline to return to the triennial convention pattern at this time; and be it also

Resolved, That the Council of Administrators, under the direction of the President of the Synod, be requested —

a) to evaluate the experience of the two biennial conventions already convened; and

b) to explore the possibility of programing the presentation of the various aspects of the work of the Synod on a staggered basis in successive conventions;

c) to explore ways of streamlining convention procedures or of finding a substitute method for conducting the Synod's business because of the great and increasing cost of the conventions and in the interest of good stewardship.

Action: Adopted as amended (13).

(Amendment: Paragraph c of the second resolved was added.)

To Retain Identity of Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded

RESOLUTION 4-20

Overtures 4-16 to 4-19 (CW, pp. 216—217); 4-34U, 4-35U, 4-37U (URO, pp. 48—49)

WHEREAS, The incidence of mental retardation presents the church with an opportunity for ministry of considerable dimensions; and

WHEREAS, Problems associated with mental retardation demand the kind of specialized attention on the part of the Synod that can be given only through a responsible board or commission; and

WHEREAS, The Synod's Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded is a comparatively young commission, having been in existence only since 1962 and with a full-time executive only since 1967; and

WHEREAS, The commission in this short time has established a respectable record of ministry by alerting the Synod to possibilities of mission to the mentally retarded; and

WHEREAS, The major thrust of the commission's work is in the area of education rather than administration of institutional programs; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded retain its identity as a commission; and be it also

Resolved, That the commission be moved from the Division of Missions and Special Ministries and be attached to the Division of Parish Education and Services.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Change Bylaws Governing Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded

RESOLUTION 4-21

Overtures 4-15, 9-06 (CW, pp. 216, 390)

WHEREAS, The Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded has by experience found that the Synod's Bylaws governing its operation are in need of refinement; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following changes be effected in Bylaws 13.31, 13.33, and 13.35:

COMMISSION FOR SERVICES TO THE MENTALLY RETARDED

7.101 Personnel and Appointment

A Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded attached to the Division of Parish Education and Services and consisting of five members (a chaplain, a parish pastor, two lay or called teachers in the field of mental retardation, and one layman), shall be appointed by the President of the Synod in consultation with the Vice-Presidents.

7.103 Executive Secretary

The commission shall appoint an Executive Secretary subject to the approval of the President of the Synod. The Executive Secretary shall perform such duties as are assigned to him by the commission.

7.105 Functions and Duties

The commission shall —

a. coordinate the ministry to and among the mentally retarded;

b. gather, classify, and make available materials pertinent to specific areas of service to the mentally retarded;

c. disseminate information by such mass media as are available;

d. cooperate with the Board of Parish Education in the production of religious materials for the education of the mentally retarded and develop and produce materials in the various media to aid the work of the church in its ministry to the mentally retarded;

e. encourage and sponsor institutes on services to the mentally retarded;

f. assist and encourage District boards of parish education and boards of social ministry in fulfilling their function as it pertains to the mentally retarded, particularly in the matter of promoting congregational establishment of full-time or part-time educational agencies for the mentally retarded;

g. cooperate with the Synod's Board of Social Ministry in rendering service to the mentally retarded through its Secretary of Institutional Chaplaincy Services and Secretary for District and Parish Welfare Services;

h. enlist the efforts of other church-related organizations in rendering service to the mentally retarded;

i. assist in coordinating the work of synodically related residential care facilities, serve as an exchange medium between these facilities, and render counsel to these church-related agencies;

j. study and evaluate (when appropriate, in consultation with the Board of Social Ministry) proposals for the establishment of services, residential care facilities, and/or additions to existing facilities for the mentally retarded;

k. review and evaluate, at the request of the Board of Directors, any Synodwide appeal for funds to be used in the field of services to the mentally retarded;

l. keep the constituency of the Synod informed of the commission's activities and report to the synodical convention.

Action: Adopted (6).

To Make Adequate Provision in Budget for World Relief Program

RESOLUTION 4-22

Overture 4-22 (CW, p. 217)

WHEREAS, The Board for World Relief has been consolidated with the Board of Social Ministry; therefore be it

Resolved, That the concerns expressed in Overture 4-22 be given full consideration by the Board of Social Ministry and World Relief in the preparation of its budget.

Action: Adopted in the form given above (11).

To Decline Temporary Advisory Committee on Supervision of Doctrine and Practice

RESOLUTION 4-23

Overture 4-10 (CW, pp. 213—214)

WHEREAS, A procedure for the supervision of doctrine and practice is established in the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The procedure proposed in the overture, that of electing a committee of 30 members divided into 10 subcommittees, is cumbersome and impractical; therefore be it

Resolved, That the overture to elect an advisory committee to assist the President in the supervision of doctrine and practice be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the President of the Synod be asked to use all desirable channels of communication to set forth clearly the proper use of the established procedure for the supervision of doctrine and practice.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Be Responsive to Human Needs

RESOLUTION 4-24

Overture 2-73U (URO, pp. 10—11)

WHEREAS, The Lord of all has instructed His children to have compassion on the poor, the underprivileged, and the downtrodden; and

WHEREAS, There are many people in our own and other lands who are not able to enjoy the bounties of God in the same measure as most of us; and

WHEREAS, Many aspects of our present-day technology contribute to the pollution of our land, water, and air; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod urge upon every member of its constituency the demonstration of loving consideration for the needs of his fellowmen and appropriate action for meeting them; and be it further

Resolved, That every congregation and agency in the Synod be asked to fulfill its role in the same endeavor; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod urge upon all its members the support of every proper effort made to control the

pollution of the physical environment into which our Creator God has placed us; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board of Social Ministry and World Relief be directed to exercise initiative in furthering the implementation of these resolutions.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Consolidate Board of Social Ministry and Board of World Relief

RESOLUTION 4-25

Report 4-03, Appendix I (CW, pp. 205—207)

WHEREAS, The functions of the Board of World Relief are associated with vast and urgent problems of human suffering throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, The intensity of these problems demands effective response in coordination and cooperation with other agencies devoted to the alleviation of human suffering both in our country and abroad; therefore be it

Resolved, That the functions of the present Board of Social Ministry and the Board of World Relief be consolidated into a single Board of Social Ministry and World Relief, attached to the Division of Missions and Special Ministries; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be directed to formulate regulations governing the newly constituted board for consideration by the 1971 convention.

Action: Adopted (11).

To Establish Commission on Lutheran Lay Higher Education

RESOLUTION 4-26

Report 4-03, Appendix I (CW, pp. 205—207)

WHEREAS, A need exists for the Synod to give orderly

attention to the broad and varied aspects of lay higher education in the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod establish a Commission on Lutheran Lay Higher Education, attached to the Division of Higher Education, to assume functions of the present Valparaiso Advisory Commission and to interest itself in the affairs of lay higher education in the church generally; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be directed to formulate regulations governing the size and functions of the newly constituted commission for consideration by the 1971 convention.

Action: Adopted (11).

To Effect Divisional Realignment of Administrative Structure

RESOLUTION 4-27

Report 4-03, Appendix I (CW, pp. 205—207)

WHEREAS, The Synod has directed that its administrative structure be subject to continuing scrutiny with a view toward more effective operation; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has committed itself to the application of the principle of homogeneous grouping of its boards, commissions, and committees into a functional divisional arrangement, with the number of divisions and departments being as few in number as possible while yet providing for adequate attention to all areas of the Synod's ministry; and

WHEREAS, The present proposed realignment of the Synod's administrative structure represents an orderly move in the direction of simplicity of organization; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following divisional realignment of the Synod's administrative structure be approved:

Divisional Realignment

PRESENT

- I. Theology and Church Relations
- II. Church Government
- III. Missions
- IV. Social Action and Welfare
- V. Higher Education
- VI. Parish Education and Services
- VII. Communications and Public Relations
- VIII. Church Literature
- IX. Special Ministries
- X. Finance
- XI. Controllorship
- XII. Staff Services

PROPOSED

- A. Theology and Church Relations
- B. Church Government
- C. Missions and Special Ministries
- D. Higher Education
- E. Parish Services
- F. Communications
- G. Finance
- H. General Staff Services

Realignment of Divisional Components

I. Theology and Church Relations

Commission on Theology and Church Relations
Commission on Fraternal Organizations
Commission on Worship

A. Theology and Church Relations

Commission on Theology and Church Relations
Commission on Fraternal Organizations
Commission on Worship
Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church
(from III)
Commission on Social Concerns (from IV)

PRESENT**II. Church Government**

Council of Presidents
Board for Convention Nominations
Commission on Constitutional Matters
Board of Appeals

Synodical Service Commission

III. Missions

Board for Missions
Church Extension Board
Medical Mission Council
Commission on Mission and Ministry in the Church

IV. Social Action and Welfare

Board of Social Ministry
Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded
Board of Managers of Concordia Plans
Board of World Relief
Commission on Social Action

V. Higher Education

Board for Higher Education
17 Boards of Control
6 Boards of Control
Advisory Committee for Valparaiso University
Committees on Colloquies

VI. Parish Education and Services

Board of Parish Education
Board for Young People's Work
Commission on Architecture

VII. Communications and Public Relations

Board for Public Relations
Editorial Commission for Official Publications
Advance Editorial Committee
Lutheran TV Productions Board
Radio Station KFUD

VIII. Church Literature

Concordia Publishing House/Board of Directors
Commission on Church Literature

IX. Special Ministries

Armed Forces Commission
Board of Stewardship, Mission Education, and Promotion
Concordia Historical Institute

X. Finance

Treasurer's Staff
Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation
Board of Pensions and Support
Board of Trustees for Trust Funds

PROPOSED**B. Church Government**

Council of Presidents
Committee for Convention Nominations
Commission on Constitutional Matters
Board of Appeals
Board of Doctrinal Review (*new*)
Synodical Service Commission

C. Missions and Special Ministries

Board for Missions
Church Extension Board
Medical Mission Council
Board of Social Ministry and World Relief (*including World Relief from IV*)
Armed Forces Commission (*from IX*)

(*Eliminate*)

(*Transfer to C*)
(*Transfer to E*)
(*Transfer to H*)
(*Consolidate with Board of Social Ministry, transfer to C*)
(*Change title, transfer to A*)

D. Higher Education

Board for Higher Education
16 Boards of Control (*within U.S.*)
7 Boards of Control (*outside U.S.*)
Commission on Lutheran Lay Higher Education
(*title change*)
Colloquy Board (*title change*)

E. Parish Services

Board of Parish Education
Board for Young People's Work
Commission on Architecture
Board of Stewardship (*from IX*)
Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded (*from IV*)

F. Communications (title change)

Board for Public Relations
Editorial Commission for Official Publications
Advance Editorial Commission (*title change*)
Board for Lutheran Television (*title change*)
Radio Station KFUD
Concordia Publishing House/Board of Directors (*from VIII*)
Church Literature Board (*title change, transfer from VIII*)

(*Eliminate*)

(*Transfer to F*)
(*Transfer to F*)

(*Eliminate*)

(*Transfer to C*)
(*Title change, transfer to E*)
(*Transfer to H*)

G. Finance

Treasury Department (*title change*)
Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation
(*Transfer to H*)
Board of Trustees for Trust Funds
Department of Controllorship

PRESENT

XI. Controllershship

Systems
Audit
Accounting
Budget

XII. Staff Services

Research and Statistics
Personnel
Purchasing and Production
Data Processing
Convention Management
Building Services and Property Management
Legal Counselor
Records Management
Transportation Department
Commission on Ministerial Health

PROPOSED

(Consolidate with X, transfer to G)

H. General Staff Services (title change)

Research and Statistics
Personnel
Purchasing and Production
Data Processing
Convention Management
Building Services and Property Management
Legal Counselor
Records Management
Transportation Department
Commission on Ministerial Health
Board of Managers/Concordia Plans (from IV)
Board of Pensions and Support (from X)
Concordia Historical Institute (from IX)

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors order *Handbook* provisions to be prepared for the boards, commissions, and departments either created or affected by this action for consideration by the 1971 convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be directed to continue to survey the administrative structure relative to consolidating the number of divisions and the further consolidation of boards, commissions, and committees; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be advised to exercise its own judgment in providing full-time executive heads to those divisions where this action appears to be necessary for good administration.

Action: *Adopted in form given above (11).*

(The committee added the word "consolidating" in the second-last resolved.)

To Take Steps Toward More Effective Supervision

RESOLUTION 4-28

Overture 4-11 (CW, pp. 214—215)

WHEREAS, The handling of items of the type mentioned in this overture lies within the primary jurisdiction of the District Presidents (*Handbook* 3.45 and 3.47, p. 83); and

WHEREAS, The District Presidents and synodical Vice-Presidents meet in regular sessions with the President of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of the Synod be asked regularly to discuss with the Council of Presidents the effective supervision of doctrine and practice.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Stress Counseling Function of Council of Presidents

RESOLUTION 4-29

Overture 4-20 (CW, p. 217)

WHEREAS, The President of the Synod meets in frequent session with the Council of Presidents; and

WHEREAS, One of the purposes of these meetings is the mutual advising and counseling on all matters of concern to the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That all the members of the Council of Presidents be instructed to make the fullest use of the freedom and privilege offered in these meetings and the duty incumbent upon the members of the council to give and receive counsel and advice in matters of doctrine and practice.

Action: *Referred to Council of Presidents for action (16).*

To Study Changes Required to Qualify for Federal and State Aid

RESOLUTION 4-30

Overture 6-70 (CW, pp. 331—332)

WHEREAS, Federal and state aid in higher education to public and to private institutions is now a matter of well-established policy in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Our synodical schools are not receiving as much such aid as they perhaps might; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education be directed to study and assess this matter and submit a report to the 1971 convention.

Action: *Adopted as amended (13).*

(Amendment: "the United States" for "our country.")

To Study Various Questions of Organization

RESOLUTION 4-31

Overtures 4-13, 4-29 (CW, pp. 215, 220); Report 5-68U (URO, pp. 59—60); President's Report

WHEREAS, Various questions have been raised regarding the number and functions of the synodical Vice-Presidents, the executive administration of the Synod, and the advisability of staff officers of the Synod and its Districts serving in elective or appointive capacities on boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, A preliminary study of the elective or appointive nature of membership on boards and commissions of the Synod has been made by the Council of Administrators; and

WHEREAS, These questions deal with issues of considerable significance for the government of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The time available during the course of a convention does not allow sufficient opportunity for a full exploration of these issues; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of the Synod designate or appoint a committee to study these and related questions and to present its findings and recommendations to the 1971 convention.

Action: Adopted (11).

To Clarify Functions of Proposed Department of Special Resources Development

RESOLUTION 4-32

Report 4-03, Appendix I (CW, pp. 205—207)

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors has proposed the creation of a Department of Special Resources Development; and

WHEREAS, It has become apparent that a need exists for coordination of special fund-raising efforts in the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The relationship of this proposed department to the Board of Stewardship and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Foundation needs clarification; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be instructed to define the scope of responsibilities of the proposed Department of Special Resources Development and present its findings to the 1971 convention for consideration.

Action: Adopted (11).

To Accept Executive Director's Report and Adopt "Handbook" Revisions

RESOLUTION 4-33

Report 4-04 and Appendix A (CW, pp. 207—210)

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Director be accepted by the Synod and that the Executive Direc-

tor, Doctor Walter F. Wolbrecht, be commended for the faithful performance of his varied duties and responsibilities; and be it further

Resolved, That the following *Handbook* revisions and additions be adopted:

1.29 Conduct of the Convention

The President shall conduct the sessions of the convention according to parliamentary law. He shall make every effort so to arrange the schedule of business that the sessions do not extend beyond one week.

1.37 Distribution of Official Proceedings

The official proceedings of each convention shall be sent by Concordia Publishing House to every pastor in the Synod for the information and use of the pastor and his congregation. Each lay delegate and lay members of synodical boards and commissions shall be sent a copy. The cost shall be paid by the Synod.

(Amend Section 2.39 j, synodical *Handbook*, p. 47, and delete *Proceedings* reference in Section 11.23 f, p. 191.)

1.61 Other Advisory Representatives

a. The Vice-Presidents of the Synod, District Presidents, chairmen of synodical divisions, and executive secretaries of boards and commissions of the Synod shall attend the general conventions *ex officio*.

c. Each board, commission, and standing committee of the Synod shall be represented at the general convention of the Synod by at least one of its members. One of these units may choose to send additional staff representatives as needed to present its work to the floor committee.

e. Other full-time employees of the Synod and its Districts and other elected officials of the Districts may attend delegate conventions as advisory delegates as they become eligible under the provisions of Section 1.57.

2.12 Prohibition of Conflict of Interest

a. No officer, director, board or commission member of the Synod or its controlled organizations shall use his position or the knowledge acquired from his service in such a manner that a conflict between his personal or business interests and the interest and general welfare of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod arises.

b. Officers or members of synodical boards or commissions shall not enter into gainful business transactions, directly or indirectly, with any board or commission on which they serve.

(Delete 2.11 e, changing f and g to e and f.)

3.37 Prohibition of Conflict of Interest

a. No officer, director, board or commission member of the District shall use his position or the knowledge acquired from his service in such a manner that a conflict between his personal or business interest and the general welfare of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and his District arises.

b. Officers or members of District boards or commissions shall not enter into gainful business transactions, directly or indirectly, with any board or commission on which they serve.

6.25 Qualifications of Elective Members

f. Members of the Board of Control shall not be on the salaried staff of a synodical educational institution.

6.26 Prohibition of Conflict of Interest

Members of a Board of Control shall not enter into gainful business contracts or transactions with the institution.

11.03 The Board of Directors

a. *Personnel*. The Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House shall be composed of nine members: one pastor, one parish school teacher, and seven laymen.

11.04 Prohibition of Conflict of Interest

Members of the Board of Directors shall not enter into gainful business contracts or transactions with Concordia Publishing House.

2.29 Advisory and Executive Functions

a. The President shall upon request, or in the exercise of his office, give counsel and advice to those who are under his supervision.

b. He shall exercise executive power when the affairs of the Synod demand it and when he has been expressly invested with such power for such specific purpose.

c. In the event that the affairs of the Synod require the exercise of executive power for a purpose for which there is no specific directive of the Synod, he shall be authorized to exercise such power after consultation with the Board of Directors, the Council of Presidents, the Vice-Presidents, or the Council of Administrators, whichever in his judgment is most appropriate. Any member of the Synod shall have the right to appeal to the convention of the Synod from his action.

(Present b, c, and d become d, e, and f respectively.)

2.39 Duties

j. edit the *Proceedings* of the convention and arrange for their distribution;

2.89 Coordination and Supervision

e. The Board of Directors shall see to it that independent audits are made of all financial activities of boards and commissions of the Synod, its controlled organizations, and its Districts.

2.27 Power and Duties of the President

f. The President shall represent the Synod in official contacts with other churches and synods.

g. The President shall represent the Synod in official contacts with all sister churches by aiding, counseling, and advising them and strengthening the relations with and between them.

(Present f, g, and h become h, i, and j respectively.)

6.163 Eligibility and Placement of Church Workers in the Synod

a. Every regular student, special supply student, vicar, or graduate of an authorized synodical institution or approved synodical training program declared qualified for placement shall be assigned his first permanent placement in church service by the Council of Presidents, acting as the Board of Assignments.

c. A year of supervised fieldwork is required of all theological students before graduation. Ordinarily this experience is to be gained in the second year before graduation.

8.57 Duties of Board

(Delete j and change k to j.)

9.21 Personnel and Appointment

The Board of Trustees for Trust Funds shall consist of the President or his representative, the Treasurer of the Synod, and five laymen to be appointed by the Board of Directors.

9.23 Term of Office

(Delete in order to conform to 2.07 b.)

12.19 Executive and Staff

In accord with synodical personnel policies and practices, the board shall engage or dismiss the general manager of the station.

15.03 Representatives at Large

(Recommendation: to delete this category as a Bylaw provision. Other program boards use advisory groups composed of persons selected from the synodical Districts.)

Action: Adopted (16).

(Proposed amendments to include "teacher delegates" and "all male teachers" in Bylaw 1.37 failed to carry.)

To Call upon Auxiliary Organizations to Develop Mechanism of Coordination

RESOLUTION 4-34

Reports 4-03, IV, B (CW, p. 205); 4-38U (URO, pp. 49 to 53)

WHEREAS, A special Committee on Auxiliaries, formed

as a result of the findings of the Synod's Survey Commission and working under the auspices of the Synod's Council of Administrators, has prepared a study with a proposal to establish a Council of Auxiliaries with a full-time coordinator responsible to the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, There is no concurrence on the part of the major auxiliary organizations that the provisions of the proposal as currently stated are either necessary or wise; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that any mechanism for the coordination of the plans and endeavors of the auxiliary agencies will demand the full support and cooperation of these agencies; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod call upon its auxiliaries (particularly the Lutheran Laymen's League, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, the National Lutheran Parent-Teacher League) and other Synod-related agencies to determine the possible advantages and to develop jointly a formal mechanism for the orderly and effective coordination of their plans and endeavors and present a proposal to the 1971 convention of the Synod for consideration; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Directors be authorized to facilitate the initial steps leading to a comprehensive consultation on this issue.

Action: Adopted as given above (13).

(The committee substituted "call upon" for "instruct" and inserted the word "possible" in the first resolved.)

To Accept President's Report

RESOLUTION 4-35

Report 4-01 (CW, p. 201)

WHEREAS, God in His grace and mercy has provided The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with capable and dedicated leadership in the President's office during the past biennium; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod accept the report of its President, Doctor Oliver R. Harms, as presented to this 48th regular convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod express its appreciation to Doctor Oliver R. Harms for his dedicated service and untiring efforts in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of his office, frequently under trying circumstances and at the cost of long hours of effort over and beyond the normal call of duty; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod assure Doctor Oliver R. Harms of its continuing prayers for God's blessing in providing him with health and strength for service in whatever ministry the Lord may lead him in the future; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod also express its gratitude to Mrs. Oliver R. Harms for her loyal support, sincere devotion, and spirit of willing sacrifice in encouraging her husband in the demanding tasks that so often made normal home life difficult; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod underscore this resolution with an appropriate gift to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

(An amendment, moved and seconded, to declare Dr. Harms Honorary President was withdrawn at his request.)

To Act on Report of Special Committee for Review of the Synod's Editorial and Periodical Policies

RESOLUTION 4-36

Report 4-33 (CW, pp. 221—224)

Preamble: Floor committee 4 has carefully studied the report and a number of additional documents presented to it. It also heard at length the oral presentations of interested parties. It wishes to thank the Special Committee for Review of the Synod's Editorial and Periodical Policies for the time and consideration it has given to the task assigned to it, as evidenced by the detailed majority and minority reports. Committee 4 finds that these reports concern many matters which are difficult to judge without either some acquaintance with editorial and publication procedures or considerably more study than can be devoted to the subject by a convention floor committee. It therefore submits the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House and the members of the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals be directed to discuss this matter in a joint meeting or a series of meetings in order to resolve the differences between them; and be it further

Resolved, That if the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House and the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals are unable to resolve their differences, this fact shall be reported to the Board of Directors of the Synod, which shall then exercise the authority given it in *Handbook* Section 2.89 c (p. 54):

The Board of Directors shall make final determination in the event that conflicts develop in the plans and policies of two or more boards or commissions of the Synod.



George finds a long-lost classmate at an open hearing!

In doing so the Board of Directors shall consider appointing a special committee to mediate or arbitrate the matter; and be it further

Resolved, That the provisions of the *Handbook* with regard to Concordia Publishing House and the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals remain as currently stated until a settlement can be effected and the revised statements are presented to the 1971 convention of the Synod; and be it finally

Resolved, That, whatever the outcome, the autonomy of the editorial structure for each District edition of the *Witness* shall be maintained and adequately safeguarded.

Action: *Adopted* (13).

To Provide for Synodical and District Budget Planning and Coordination

RESOLUTION 4-37

Overture 4-40U (URO, pp. 253—54)

WHEREAS, Your committee has carefully studied the proposal of the Synod's Council of Administrators to inaugurate procedures that will lead to more effective and realistic synodical and District budget planning and budget determination (Overture 4-40U); and

WHEREAS, The committee finds itself in almost complete agreement with the principles and procedures outlined in the proposal; therefore be it

Resolved, That the second resolved be amended by the deletion of the words "ratio agreed upon through," to read: "*Resolved*, That all operating funds held or received by a synodical District be subject to budgetary controls and that its current income be allocated or distributed to its own approved work program or forwarded to the synodical treasury on the basis of consultation between synodical representatives and District leaders"; and be it finally

Resolved, That the entire overture (4-40U) thus amended be adopted.

Action: *Referred to Council of Administrators for action* (16).

To Develop a Statement on Ethics

RESOLUTION 4-38

Convention Referral

Preamble

These resolutions deal with matters this convention felt should be handled promptly. They relate to particular concerns expressed by many concerning the activities and methods used by various individuals and groups in so-called politicking and promotion of issues and individuals. In an open hearing held on Monday evening for 2 hours, a large number of people made expressions and comments on this question. We recognize that here is a matter of serious concern to our church.

When we talk about politicking, we need to define what we mean. We believe we all recognize that there are forms of so-called politicking that may well be proper and in good order. We believe we all recognize that there are other forms and types of so-called politicking that in the framework of the church are both wrong and bad. Anytime politicking takes on the form or the impression of violating the Eighth Commandment of God's holy law, it's sin and it's wrong.

Some practices that have been carried on in recent years by various groups, such as using mailings to delegates of preferred or acceptable nominees for office, are totally contrary to the practices that have prevailed in our church in the past.

We need to recognize, brethren, that these practices of so-called politicking reflect upon the church. What is said and the manner in which a thing is done speak not only for the individual or group involved in doing these things. When they are doing them as a part of a church body, they reflect upon that church body. Such incidents and events come to the attention and the knowledge of the public, and on the basis of this knowledge the public judges the church. These practices can also readily become a divisive factor which only divides and disrupts the church. We need to stop and take serious account of ourselves, each and every one of us. We need to search our hearts and minds. We need to search our understanding, our concept of the function and work of the church. We need to seek and search our understanding of our relationship to one another as Christian brothers. It is against these self-searching investigations that we judge and evaluate what we as individuals or as groups ought to do in these matters.

In the hearings there were two areas of concern expressed by most of those who spoke. One was the question "What is proper procedure in promoting or opposing either an individual or an issue before the church?" The other concern widely expressed dealt with some means of obtaining better information so that the delegates, and particularly the laymen, might perform their serious duty of electing officers and members of boards and commissions for our Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod more intelligently and wisely.

In the course of our committee sessions since Monday evening, we have not been able by any means to enunciate or to delineate any specific policy or program that we would like to present to you at the convention. But we do believe, brethren, that in earnest Christian love for one another and out of an earnest concern for the well-being of our beloved church, we need to stop and take a good, strong, long, serious look at these matters that reflect upon us and our church. It is against this background that we present to you two resolutions that deal with these particular concerns.

WHEREAS, Many earnest concerns have been voiced about the propriety of various methods used to persuade and influence delegates in their voting for candidates or on issues; and

WHEREAS, A general confusion and bewilderment is

felt by many in the Synod about the kind of activities they may legitimately pursue in obtaining information or in soliciting support for their convictions; and

WHEREAS, These issues deal in a most profound way with the very life-style of the Synod and are altogether too complex to be given the comprehensive and intense study they demand during the course of a convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod instruct the Council of Presidents to develop and publish a statement on ethics and honorable and acceptable practices associated with avenues of communication designed to inform the Synod at large and convention delegates in particular.

Action: Adopted as amended (16).

(The assembly resolved that the introductory statement of the committee chairman should be incorporated in the resolution as a preamble and distributed among the members of the Synod.)

To Study Election Procedure

RESOLUTION 4-39

Convention Referral

WHEREAS, The current method of electing the administrative officers of the Synod no longer appears adequate for enabling all delegates to a synodical convention to make an intelligent decision in casting their votes; and

WHEREAS, Many delegates have stated that they lack the necessary information concerning all candidates, and we recognize the need of such information; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of the Synod, with the concurrence of the Council of Presidents, appoint a committee to study the method and procedure of nominations and elections and the dissemination of information concerning candidates, and present appropriate recommendations to the 1971 convention.

Action: Adopted (16).

5. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

To Accept into Membership Certain Congregations

RESOLUTION 5-01

Report 5-01 (CW, pp. 225—227); Overtures 5-62U, 5-63U, 5-67U, 5-75U (URO, pp. 58, 59, 62)

WHEREAS, Certain congregations have, in accordance with Article V of the Constitution, applied for membership in the Synod:

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Flint, Michigan (Mich.)

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Sharonville, Ohio (Ohio)

King of Kings Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, Missouri (Mo.)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Chesterfield Twp., Macomb County, Michigan (Mich.)

therefore be it

Resolved, That these applications for membership be approved (*Handbook* 1.01); and be it also

Resolved, That the signing of the Constitution take place at the conventions of the respective Districts, in accordance with Section 1.03 of the *Handbook*.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

(See also Res. 5-31.)

To Grant Youth Guests Speaking Privileges

RESOLUTION 5-02

Overtures 15-01, 15-02 (CW, p. 487)

WHEREAS, The President of the Synod has invited Districts to send young people as guests to the Denver convention; and

WHEREAS, This invitation has also been extended to colleges and seminaries of the Synod to send students as guests; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge with gratitude to God the blessing of youth who are dedicated to Christ and to His church; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention extend a cordial welcome to these guests; and be it further

Resolved, That the convention encourage the floor committees to use this opportunity to hear the concerns of the young people; and be it finally

Resolved, That they be granted the privilege of addressing the convention at the invitation of a floor committee and at the discretion of the chair.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Elect Some Younger Persons to Synodical Boards

RESOLUTION 5-03

Overture 5-27 (CW, p. 237)

WHEREAS, The church benefits from the experience and participation of persons of all age levels; and

WHEREAS, Younger pastors, teachers, and laymen can often bring new and fresh insights to the church's program; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Committee for Convention Nominations be requested to bear in mind this concern of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Require Election by Majority

RESOLUTION 5-04

Report 5-01, IV, D; Overtures 5-25, 5-26 (CW, pp. 226, 236-237)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Synod says: "All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be

decided by a majority vote" (Constitution, Art. VIII, C); and

WHEREAS, The Synod has stipulated in Bylaws 2.125 and 3.33 that a majority of all votes cast shall be required to elect the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the elective members of the Board of Directors, and the Circuit Counselors; and

WHEREAS, It has permitted other positions to be filled by plurality vote, presumably in order to avoid time-consuming balloting to establish majorities when larger slates of candidates are proposed; and

WHEREAS, It is apparent that the plurality arrangement is unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, The New York convention ably demonstrated that data-processing equipment makes possible the expeditious handling of multiple elections and run-off balloting; and

WHEREAS, It would seem proper, since it is now possible, to permit the majority principle truly to prevail in all matters not decided by God's Word; therefore be it

Resolved, That Bylaws 2.125 and 3.33 be amended to read as follows, effective forthwith and governing the elections at the 1969 convention:

2.125 (and 3.33) Majority Vote

a. A majority of all votes cast shall be required for election to all elective offices and elective board positions.

b. Except in the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the following regulations shall apply: Candidates receiving a majority on the first ballot shall be declared elected. When a second or succeeding ballot is required for a majority, the candidate receiving the fewest votes and all candidates receiving less than 15% of the votes cast shall be dropped from the ballot, unless fewer than two candidates receive 15% or more of the votes cast, in which case the three highest candidates shall constitute the ballot. In every election balloting shall continue until every position has been filled by majority vote.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

Not to Require Annual Subscription to Constitution and Installation Pledge

RESOLUTION 5-05

Overture 5-32 (CW, p. 240)

WHEREAS, A periodic renewal of a solemn vow calls into question the very nature of a vow; and

WHEREAS, A mandatory annual renewal of the installation pledge would depreciate the integrity of the Synod's pastoral and teaching ministerium; and

WHEREAS, Synodically adopted statements are not part of the ordination or installation vow; and

WHEREAS, Placing synodically adopted doctrinal statements on an equal basis of authority with Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions is not in harmony with Article II of the Constitution of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 5-32 be declined.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

Not to Divide the Synod into Two Bodies

RESOLUTION 5-06

Overtures 5-33, 5-34 (CW, p. 241)

WHEREAS, The Synod exists, under God, as an instrument of reconciliation and unity; and

WHEREAS, Overtures 5-33 and 5-34 fail to recognize the unity in the Gospel of Jesus Christ which we as a Synod are privileged to enjoy; therefore be it

Resolved, That these overtures be declined.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Revise Bylaws for Committee for Convention Nominations

RESOLUTION 5-07

Report 5-01, IV, A; Overture 5-28 (CW, pp. 225, 237 to 239)

Resolved, That the following sections in the Bylaws, 2.139 to and including 2.153, be amended as follows:

2.139 Election of Committee for Convention Nominations

a. No change.

b. The Committee for Convention Nominations is an *ad hoc* convention committee, to which limitations on holding multiple offices do not apply but whose members may not succeed themselves.

c. Present b becomes c.

2.141 Publication of Names of Committee for Convention Nominations and Solicitation of Suggestions for Candidates

a. The names of the members of the Committee for Convention Nominations shall be published in the official synodical publications by the Secretary of the Synod at least 12 months prior to each convention.

b. Members and congregations of the Synod shall be invited to suggest to the committee names of suitable candidates for the various elective offices, boards, and commissions of the Synod. Qualifications of each candidate suggested are to be submitted together with the names.

c. The Committee for Convention Nominations shall solicit from the District Presidents, District Boards of Directors, Circuit Counselors, and other likely sources names of men who are regarded as suitable candidates for election to the various offices, boards, and commissions of the Synod. Qualifications of each candidate suggested are to be submitted together with the names.

d. All suggested names and information for consideration by the Committee for Convention Nominations shall be submitted to the committee no later than 6 months prior to the synodical convention.

2.143 Duties of Committee for Convention Nominations

a. The first meeting of the Committee for Convention Nominations shall be at the call of the President of the Synod, at which meeting the committee shall name its chairman and secretary.

b. No change.

c. Present a becomes c.

d. Two candidates shall be nominated for each position.

e. At least 5 months prior to the convention the committee shall determine its complete list of candidates and alternates, obtain the consent of the persons it proposes to nominate, and transmit its final report to the Secretary of the Synod in ample time to provide for its publication in a pre-convention issue of the official publications of the Synod and also in the official convention book of reports and overtures (*Convention Workbook*). This report shall contain pertinent information concerning each candidate, such as age, occupation or profession, District affiliation,

residence, and specific experience and qualifications for the office in question.

Eliminate present 2.145. See 2.141 c above.

Eliminate present 2.147. See 2.141 c above.

2.145 Report of Committee for Convention Nominations

a. The chairman of the Committee for Convention Nominations shall submit the committee's report in person to the convention at one of its earliest sessions, and immediately thereupon nominations may be made from the floor of the convention. Any delegate making a nomination from the floor shall have secured prior written consent of the candidate whom he wishes to nominate. He shall immediately submit in writing to the chairman of the Committee for Convention Nominations this document and pertinent information concerning his nominee as detailed in 2.143 e. No further nominations shall thereafter be accepted, except in the event that the Synod in convention creates a new elective office, board, or commission for which no candidates have previously been nominated.

b. Present 2.151 c becomes 2.145 b.

2.147 Order of Names on Ballot

The names and District affiliations of the candidates in all elections—at least two for each position—shall be placed on the election ballot in alphabetical order and without any distinctive mark, except where regional representation is a synodical preference or requirement.

2.39 Duties of the Secretary of the Synod

e. Publish the names of the members of the Committee for Convention Nominations in the official synodical periodicals at least 12 months before each convention of the Synod. and be it also

Resolved, That the Commission on Constitutional Matters change "Board for Convention Nominations" to "Committee for Convention Nominations" wherever the former appears in the synodical *Handbook*.

Action: Adopted as amended (5).

(2.141 b was amended by eliminating after "candidates" the words "accompanied by supporting information" and by adding the second sentence.

The following amendments were moved and seconded but failed to carry:

1. To change 2.139 b to read: "may succeed themselves but once";

2. To eliminate "District affiliation" from 2.147;

3. To drop "age" from 2.143 e;

4. To reverse the designation of the committee as an *ad hoc* convention committee (2.139 b).

The committee inserted "written" into "prior consent" and added "this document and" in 2.145 a before the resolution was adopted.)

To Transfer Several Congregations from California and Nevada District to Southern California District

RESOLUTION 5-08

Overtures 5-46 to 5-48 (CW, pp. 244—245)

WHEREAS, Congregations of Circuit 21 and the Boards of Directors of the California and Nevada District and the Southern California District have requested that the five congregations of Circuit 21 of the California and Nevada District be transferred to the Southern California District for various reasons including geographical; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod authorize the transfer of the congregations of

Circuit 21 of the California and Nevada District to the Southern California District provided all technicalities can be settled satisfactorily between the Boards of Directors of the Districts involved.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Transfer First Church, Windsor, Ont., to Ontario District

RESOLUTION 5-09

Overtures 5-49, 5-50 (CW, p. 245)

WHEREAS, First Lutheran Congregation of Windsor, Ont., and the Michigan District have requested that the congregation be transferred from the Michigan District to the Ontario District; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod authorize the transfer of First Lutheran Congregation of Windsor, Ont., from the Michigan District to the Ontario District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Transfer Holy Cross, Belding, Mich., to Michigan District

RESOLUTION 5-10

Overtures 5-51 (CW, p. 246); 5-64U (URO, p. 58)

WHEREAS, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Belding, Mich., has made application and the Board of Directors of the English District has endorsed said application that the congregation be transferred from the English District to the Michigan District; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod authorize the transfer of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Belding, Mich., from the English District to the Michigan District.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Transfer Christ Church, Superior, Wis., to Minnesota North District

RESOLUTION 5-11

Overture 5-60U (URO, pp. 56—57)

WHEREAS, It has been brought to our attention that Christ Lutheran Church of Superior, Wis., has not officially been transferred from the North Wisconsin District to the Minnesota North District although approved by both Districts; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod transfer Christ Lutheran Church of Superior, Wis., to the Minnesota North District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Retain Convention Arrangements

RESOLUTION 5-12

Overtures 5-23, 5-24 (CW, p. 236)

WHEREAS, The present practice of appointing convention committees and processing overtures is a satisfactory procedure of long standing; and

WHEREAS, Article 1.27 e of the Bylaws provides for adequate democratic safeguards; and

WHEREAS, The committee has been assured that no overtures in compliance with Bylaw 1.27 f have ever been withheld for action by the Synod; and

WHEREAS, There are no compelling reasons to change the present practices; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overtures 5-23 and 5-24 be declined.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Amend Bylaws re Reports and Overtures

RESOLUTION 5-13

Report 5-02; Overtures 5-18 to 5-22 (CW, pp. 227—229, 235—236)

Preamble

The right to present overtures to a delegate convention is a valued right, which the *Handbook*, Section 1.27, restricts to members of the Synod only. The Special Overtures Committee was charged with the task of studying the question whether this right should be further restricted or extended. While recognizing the fairness of allowing as many people as possible to present overtures, the committee recognized as well the desirability of a limitation on the number of overtures in order not to impair the efficient conduct of a convention. To accomplish this twofold goal, the committee recommended that the right to submit overtures be denied to all individuals and to limit it to certain duly constituted groups of individuals in the Synod as detailed in the proposed amended Bylaw 1.27.

If anyone has a matter which he feels should be presented to the Synod and his proposal has merit, there are sufficient avenues open to him to accomplish this. By requiring that all overtures be submitted by such a group, there is greater likelihood that the overtures will reflect more considered judgment and perhaps more refinement in language; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention adopt the following amended wording of Bylaw 1.27 a:

1.27 Reports and Overtures

a. The principal business of a synodical convention shall be the consideration of reports and overtures.

1. Reports to a convention of the Synod may be submitted only by the President, a Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Executive Director, the Controller of the Synod, a board or commission of the Synod as listed in Sections 2.03 and 2.05, and other individuals or duly constituted groups of individuals who may be required or permitted by the Bylaws, by action of a prior synodical convention, or by the President to report to a convention. A report shall not include an overture unless the report is sub-

mitted by someone authorized (in the following paragraph 2) to submit overtures.

Reports are (1) statements of work performed or contemplated by those who are charged with conducting the business of the Synod between conventions, (2) communications to a convention with respect to studies which may have been made for the Synod in order to further its work, or (3) other types of communications to the Synod.

2. Overtures to a convention of the Synod may be submitted only by a member congregation of the Synod, a convention or Board of Directors of a District, an official District pastoral or teachers conference, the faculty of an educational institution of the Synod, a board or commission of the Synod listed in Sections 2.03 and 2.05, or a committee established by a prior convention.

Overtures are recommendations in the form of proposed resolutions requesting action on the part of the convention.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Prepare Guidelines on Practice of Seconding

RESOLUTION 5-14

Overture 5-65U (URO, pp. 58—59)

WHEREAS, The worker in question is not a missionary or evangelist of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, He is not listed on the official roster of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod nor paid by the Synod; and

WHEREAS, He is serving on a temporary basis because of a special ability in a specialized area; and

WHEREAS, The practice of seconding is more and more in the process of development; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 5-65U be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board for Missions be encouraged to prepare specific guidelines on seconding for presentation at the next delegate convention.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Decline Overture re English District

RESOLUTION 5-15

Overture 5-35 (CW, p. 242)

WHEREAS, The English District plays a significant role in the mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, The committee believes that according to past practice the initiative for dissolution of the English District should rest within the District itself; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 5-35 be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That whenever geographical District realignments occur or new Districts are created, the English District congregations within the newly constituted Districts be invited to transfer their membership to the new District.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Introduce Majority Principle in Electing Delegates

RESOLUTION 5-16

Overtures 5-10, 5-13 (CW, pp. 231—233)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Synod says: "All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote" (Constitution, Art. VIII, C); therefore be it

Resolved, That Bylaw 1.53 be amended by deleting the words: "The pastor receiving the highest number of votes shall serve as the pastoral delegate, the pastor with the next highest as the alternate," and by substituting the following: "The two pastors receiving the highest number of votes shall then be voted on, also by ballot, and the one of them receiving the highest number of votes shall be the pastoral delegate. The same procedure shall then be followed in determining who shall be the pastoral alternate and, in turn, which congregation shall supply the lay delegate and which congregation shall supply the lay alternate. In case of a tie in any of the primary elections, the man or congregation having the least number of votes shall be eliminated from consideration and a vote taken again on the remaining men or congregations who received votes in the first balloting."

Action: Adopted (16).

(The words "or congregation(s)" were inserted by the committee during floor discussion.)

To Retain Present Method of Selecting Delegates

RESOLUTION 5-17

Overtures 5-11 to 5-15 (CW, pp. 232—234)

WHEREAS, The procedures adopted at the New York convention in 1967 call for meetings of the electoral circuits to elect their delegates; and

WHEREAS, This procedure has generally met with success in virtually all areas of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The meetings of the electoral circuits may well transact other business of the church besides electing delegates, for which meetings of the circuits are beneficial; therefore be it

Resolved, That the present policies requiring electoral circuits to meet be retained and that the overtures noted above be declined.

Action: Referred to the Council of Presidents for action (16).

To Study Representation at Synodical and District Conventions

RESOLUTION 5-18

Overtures 5-06 to 5-09, 5-16, 5-17 (CW, pp. 230—231, 234); 5-54U, 5-58U, 5-69U, 5-74U (URO, pp. 55—56, 60, 62)

WHEREAS, The above-noted overtures in one way or

another deal with representation at delegate and District conventions and with matters of franchise; and

WHEREAS, Some of the questions are of long standing and have significant implications and long-range consequences; and

WHEREAS, These matters merit more careful study than can be given within the limited time and resources of a convention floor committee; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention request the President of the Synod to appoint a special committee to study these issues and to report its recommendations to the next convention.

Action: Referred to the President for action (16).

To Amend Bylaws re Convention Reports and Overtures

RESOLUTION 5-19

Reports 4-04, 5-01, IV, E; Overtures 4-25 (CW, pp. 208, 218, 226—227); 5-72U (URO, p. 61)

Resolved, That Bylaw 1.27 b, c, d, e, f, g, and h be changed as follows:

b. Reports and overtures must be submitted in triplicate to the President of the Synod not later than 12 weeks prior to the opening date of the convention. No report or overture received subsequent to that date shall be accepted for convention consideration unless a committee consisting of the President, the First Vice-President, and the Secretary adjudge it to be a matter of overriding importance and urgency which is not adequately covered by documents already before the convention.

c. Overtures requesting the Synod to take action which is in conflict with the Constitution or Bylaws of the Synod or in matters for which the Constitution or Bylaws have provided specific procedures; or overtures which contain defamatory allegations; or overtures which may subject the President of the Synod or the Synod to civil actions for libel

or slander, shall not be published or presented to any floor committee or to the convention; nor shall any overture be accepted with reference to any case involving suspension, expulsion, or appeals.

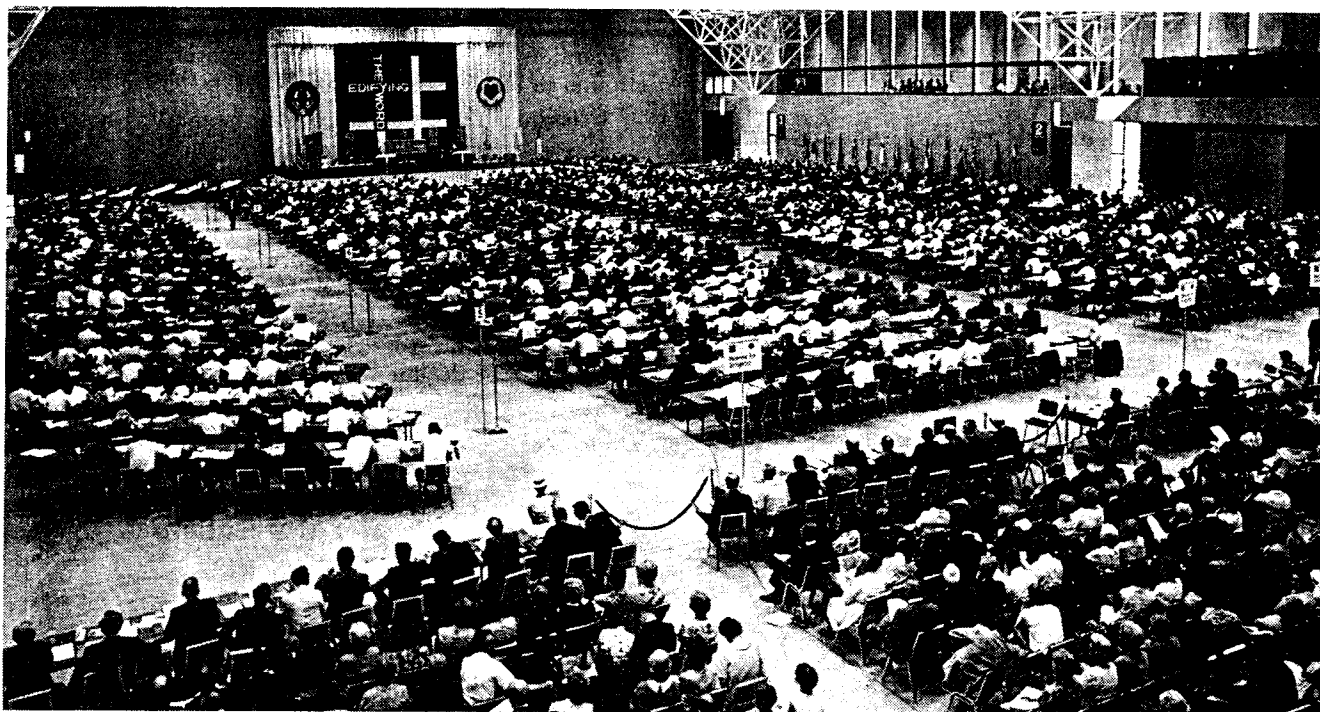
d. A convention manual containing reports, overtures, and other information shall be published under the editorship of the Secretary subject to the approval of the President. The President shall also decide which of the matters accepted for presentation to and consideration by the convention shall be published in the convention manual.

e. A copy of the convention manual shall be sent to each pastor and teacher on the official rosters of the Synod, to each lay delegate and alternate, to each lay member of synodical boards and commissions, and to all such lay teachers and lay ministers as are designated by their District Presidents, not later than 6 weeks prior to the opening date of the convention.

f. All reports and overtures accepted by the President in accordance with the foregoing paragraphs shall be referred by him to convention committees appointed by him in the name of the convention from among the voting and advisory delegates. Pastors, teachers, and laymen shall be represented on all committees. The President shall notify committee members of their appointment and of the time and place of their first meeting no later than 8 weeks before the start of the convention. The committee rosters shall be published in the *Lutheran Witness Reporter* at least 6 weeks before the convention. After due consideration of the matters referred to it, each committee is to report its findings and recommendations to the convention. If the President deems it advisable, he may convene any committees prior to the opening of the convention.

g. Any member of the Synod (congregation, pastor, teacher) and any lay delegate to the convention wishing to express comments on reports and overtures appearing in the convention manual may submit these in triplicate at least 2 weeks prior to the convention to the Secretary of the Synod, who shall transmit them to the appropriate convention committee for consideration.

h. Overtures and recommendations involving capital outlay or current expenditures shall be accompanied, to the extent feasible, by cost projections and the basis thereof; furthermore, each proposed resolution involving expenditures, prior to its consideration on the floor of the convention, shall be presented to the floor committee on financial matters, which in consultation with the Controller shall attach to the recommended resolution accompanying in-



formation on estimated cost thereof on an annual basis or on a project basis, as the case may be.

Action: *Adopted as amended (13).*

(Amendment: Para. g originally called for 1 week rather than 2 weeks.)

To Retain Broader Base for Board of Directors Membership

RESOLUTION 5-20

Overture 5-70U (URO, pp. 60—61)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Constitutional Matters has issued an opinion clarifying and interpreting *Handbook 2.71, "Membership"*; and

WHEREAS, It is advisable to retain the broader base of representation on the Board of Directors of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 5.70U be declined.

Action: *Referred to Council of Presidents for action (16).*

To Clarify Appeals Procedure re Instructors

RESOLUTION 5-21

Report 5-01, IV, C (CW, pp. 225—226)

WHEREAS, The report of the Commission on Constitutional Matters calls attention to an oversight in Bylaw 6.83; therefore be it

Resolved, That Bylaw 6.83 be amended to read:

... If the Board for Higher Education concurs in the findings, it shall make necessary recommendations to the District President, who is to proceed according to Sections 5.31 ff., with the provision, however, that in the event of a suspension the case shall be submitted to the synodical Board of Appeals.

Action: *Adopted (13).*

To Decline Request for Referendum as Unconstitutional

RESOLUTION 5-22

Overtures 3-45 to 3-83, 5-04 (CW, pp. 109—125, 229); 3-282U to 3-284U, 3-304U, 3-324U, 3-325U, 3-381U, 5-71U (URO, pp. 13—14, 19—20, 25, 46, 61)

OPINION REGARDING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF A REFERENDUM

The chairman of the convention floor committee on Church Relations has requested an opinion on the constitutionality of a congregational referendum on the question of fellowship with The American Lutheran Church.

The commission believes that the question really is: Does the Constitution of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod permit the delegates who are elected to represent the congregations of the Synod to transfer to those congregations the responsibility to decide questions which are properly presented to the convention for decision? The commission is aware that fellowship may be only one of many issues that some might prefer to have referred to the congregations for decision.

It is the opinion of the commission that the question must be answered in the negative. To transfer responsibility for making a decision on fellowship or any other question is inconsistent with the type of polity set forth in the Constitution and under which the Synod has operated for

generations. This polity is one of representative government which calls for full and free discussion of issues in a deliberative assembly and then imposes responsibility on each delegate to make a decision. The delegate may not even be bound by instructions given to him by his constituency.

Not only does the Constitution make no provision for a referendum, but, on the contrary, many provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws give clear indication that the polity is one of representative government. A majority vote at the convention itself controls (Article VIII, C). Articles VIII and IX give additional evidence that the government of the Synod is a representative government and not a government by referendum. Article XII, Sections 10, 14, 15, require that even at the District level the decisions must be made by representatives. See also the following Bylaws which express and implement this polity: 1.21; 1.27; 1.51; 1.53; 1.55; 1.59; 3.17.

To argue that a referendum on the fellowship question should be permitted because a certain type of referendum is indeed provided for when the Constitution is to be amended is beside the point. There is an essential difference between changing the basic law (the Constitution) under which the congregations have agreed to govern themselves as a Synod and deciding a course of action on a given issue. The two situations are not even parallel, much less identical. Furthermore, a specific provision does not establish a general rule; in fact, a specific provision is often necessary to provide for an exception to a general rule. The commission holds that this is the case in the procedures set forth in Article XIV for amending the Constitution. Nor are the provisions for an emergency decision between conventions (Article XI, B, 9) germane to the question under consideration, since no emergency is involved.

The conclusion of the Commission on Constitutional Matters is that a referendum is permissible only after the Constitution has been amended to allow it. It should be clearly understood that such an amendment would involve a substantial change in the polity of the Synod but that the Synod has the right to make such a change if it so desires.

COMMISSION ON CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

HERBERT KUENNE, *Chairman*

GERHARDT S. JERSILD

ELMER LUESSENHOP

GEORGE H. SOMMERMEYER

HERBERT MUELLER, *Secretary*

Unanimously adopted June 6, 1969

WHEREAS, A referendum by congregations on matters of church relations is contrary to the Constitution of the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the above-mentioned overtures be declined.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Reiterate in Bylaws that Member Congregations Must Be Served by Members of the Synod

RESOLUTION 5-23

Overtures 5-05 (CW, p. 229); 5-61U, 5-73U (URO, pp. 57—58, 62)

Preamble

One of the very purposes of a synodical fellowship is to provide guidance and help in the exercise of a congregation's right to call a pastor, and one of the very reasons why a synod exists is to set standards for the parish pastorate so that the individual congregation may be assured that the man whom it calls is qualified to serve as its parish pastor (*Charter*, Art. II b; *Constitution*, Article III 3). To this end The Lutheran Church

—Missouri Synod establishes procedures for determining whether men meet the standards. One of the advantages which a congregation receives when it joins the Synod is the protection against pastors who do not meet such standards.

The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has provided two methods whereby a man may qualify for its ministry: (1) a graduate of either of the synodical ministerial seminaries must first be endorsed by the faculty of his respective seminary; or (2) a man who is not a graduate of one of the ministerial seminaries must be recommended for acceptance by the Commission on Colloquies. Following the endorsement or recommendation, the candidate for the ministry must have received and accepted his first call through the Council of Presidents, acting as the Board of Assignments, and must be ordained by the President of the District to which he has been assigned (or by his representative). Having made proper application, he becomes a member of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod upon signing the Constitution of the Synod. (Bylaws 4.09 to 4.19, 4.55 to 4.67)

The Constitution of the Synod (Art. VI 3) sets forth as one of the conditions for a congregation to acquire and hold membership in the Synod the regular call of pastors and teachers and the regular election of delegates. The term "regular call" as used in our Synod has always meant a call extended in conformity with the procedures adopted by the Synod as set forth in the *Handbook*. The very fact that the "regular election" of delegates is required in the same sentence leaves no doubt of this, because if a congregation is not a member of the Synod, it has no right to elect delegates. The obligation of a congregation to seek the advice of the respective District officials when calling pastors or teachers (Bylaw 4.01) emphasizes this meaning.

Article XIII of the Constitution of the Synod, Bylaw 1.05, and Bylaw 1.09 a are binding on every member of the Synod, and refusal to comply with the rules and regulations of the Synod constitutes divisive and unbrotherly conduct which destroys the very concept of the Synod as a "walking together." The right of a congregation to exercise the right of expediency (Bylaw 1.09b) applies only to resolutions of the Synod and not to the Constitution and Bylaws.

In confirmation of the above interpretation, the Commission on Constitutional Matters in answer to a question raised by the President of the Synod handed down the following opinion on June 14, 1968:

"After thorough study of the Constitution and Bylaws, the Commission on Constitutional Matters has come to the conclusion that having a pastor who is not a member of the Synod is not permissible and that such a congregation cannot remain a member of the Synod or exercise any rights and privileges of membership."

In order that there may be no misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the condition that the membership of congregations in the Synod requires of a congregation that all pastors, as also all teachers, who are called

to and who serve the congregations of the Synod must have been admitted to the ministry of the Synod in accordance with the procedures provided by the Synod for certification, recommendation, ordination, or commissioning of such pastors or called teachers, this committee deems it advisable to reiterate the basic constitutional requirements in clear and unmistakable words also in the Bylaws; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following Bylaw be adopted by the Synod:

4.02 Eligible Pastors and Teachers

a. Congregations which are members of the Synod, in conformity with Article III, 3 of the Constitution of the Synod, shall call and be served only by pastors and called teachers who have been admitted to these respective ministries in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth in the synodical *Handbook* and have thereby become members of the Synod.

b. Congregations which violate this requirement and persist in such violation shall after due admonition forfeit their membership in the Synod.

and be it further

Resolved, That Overture 5-61U be declined.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Define District Boundaries in Kentucky

RESOLUTION 5-24

Overtures 5-43 to 5-45 (CW, p. 244)

WHEREAS, The Ohio District, the Mid-South District, and the Indiana District have requested that the Synod establish the boundary line of the Ohio District in the State of Kentucky; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod establish the Ohio District boundary line in the State of Kentucky to follow a line starting at the Ohio River on the north, dividing Gallatin and Boone Counties, and ending on the south boundary of the state on the line that divides Bell and Harlan Counties, the following counties of the State of Kentucky to be included in the Ohio District:

Boone	Lewis	Johnson
Kenton	Bath	Lawrence
Campbell	Rowan	Martin
Grant	Carter	Floyd
Pendleton	Greenup	Breathitt
Bracken	Menifee	Knott
Harrison	Morgan	Perry
Robertson	Elliott	Leslie
Mason	Boyd	Pike
Nicholas	Wolfe	Letcher
Fleming	Magoffin	Harlan

and the following counties to be included in the northern boundary of the Mid-South District:

Union	Webster	McLean
Ohio	Grayson	Hart
Green	Taylor	Casey
Pulaski	Rockcastle	Jackson
Lee		

and the following counties to be included as the eastern boundary:

Lee	Owsley	Clay
Bell		

and the following counties in Kentucky to be included in the southern boundary of the Indiana District:

Henderson	Hardin	Lincoln
Daviess	Larue	Garrard
Hancock	Marion	Madison
Breckinridge	Boyle	Estill

and the following counties to be included as the eastern boundary:

Gallatin	Scott	Montgomery
Owen	Bourbon	Powell

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Decline Change of Constitution to Allow Referendum on Fellowship Relations

RESOLUTION 5-25

Overtures 5-03 (CW, p. 229); 5-53U (URO, p. 55)

WHEREAS, An amendment to the Constitution which would require that other matters besides amendments to the Constitution be submitted directly to each voting congregation of the Synod would constitute a substantial change in the polity of the Synod — a polity which has served the Synod well for many years; and

WHEREAS, Decisions in the area of fellowship relations have throughout our history been the responsibility of the delegate conventions, as required by Bylaw 1.21, and have not been made by a congregational referendum; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 5-03 be declined.

Action: *Adopted as amended (16).*

(Amendment: The convention deleted a third whereas which had read:

"WHEREAS, A congregational referendum on the establishment of fellowship relations with other church bodies would require that detailed information of all issues involved would have to be thoroughly and objectively presented and discussed in every voting body of every voting congregation with the likelihood that strong leadership might lead to much group reaction, or of sharp and deep divisions of opinion in many individual local congregations or between congregations and between circuits.")

To Decline Requirement of Two-Thirds Majority Vote

RESOLUTION 5-26

Overture 3-44 (CW, p. 109)

WHEREAS, Article VIII, C of the Constitution of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod requires that all matters other than those of doctrine and conscience shall be decided by a majority vote; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 3-44 be declined.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Study Feasibility of New District in Southwest

RESOLUTION 5-27

Overture 5-42 (CW, pp. 243—244)

WHEREAS, Preliminary studies indicate that a realignment of Districts in the Southwest may be a desirable course of action; therefore be it

Resolved, That the synodical Department of Research and Statistics, together with the Southern California District and any others who may be affected by realignments in this area, initiate a study to determine the feasibility of creating a new District in the Southwest and report its findings to the next delegate convention of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Realign Northern and Southern Nebraska Districts

RESOLUTION 5-28

Overtures 5-40, 5-41 (CW, p. 243)

WHEREAS, Both Northern and Southern Nebraska Districts have petitioned the Synod to make the following realignment; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Northern and Southern Nebraska Districts combine to form a new District to be known as the Nebraska District, to include the entire area of the State of Nebraska with the exception of these western counties: Sioux, Dawes, Box Butte, Sheridan, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, and Deuel, which constitute the present Scottsbluff and Sidney Circuits; and be it further

Resolved, That the area comprising the State of Wyoming constitute a new District to be called the Wyoming District, which shall also include the counties in Western Nebraska mentioned above; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Wyoming District and the Montana District and the synodical Department of Research and Statistics undertake a study of the feasibility of further realignment.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Study Division of Atlantic District

RESOLUTION 5-29

Overtures 5-36 to 5-39 (CW, pp. 242—243); 5-56U, 5-57U, 5-59U (URO, pp. 55—56)

WHEREAS, It is apparent to the floor committee that the general constituency of the Atlantic District is not in agreement on the matter of District division; and

WHEREAS, Under these conditions the committee considers it unwise to recommend division at this time; and

WHEREAS, Consideration might be given to a possible division of the District along lines other than those presently proposed; therefore be it

Resolved, That the petitions to divide the District be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of the Synod study the matter of the proposed division of the Atlantic District according to the guidelines adopted at this convention (Res. 4-03 and 4-04) and that the Board of Directors of the Synod present a definite proposal regarding the requested division of the Atlantic District to the 1971 convention of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted as amended (16).*

(The second resolved, as proposed by the floor committee, had read: "That studies on the division of the District continue, bearing in mind the guidelines adopted at this convention [4-03, 4-04]." In Session 13 an amendment was moved and seconded giving authority to the synodical Board of Directors to divide the District. Since the constitutionality of such an action was questioned, the assembly referred the resolution back to the floor committee in consultation with the Commission on Constitutional Matters. In Session 16 a revised wording was substituted for the proposed amendment. This amendment was accepted by the convention as the final resolved and the entire amended resolution thereupon adopted.)

To Clarify Final and Binding Nature of Board of Appeals Decisions

RESOLUTION 5-30

Overtures 5-29 (CW, p. 239); 5-66U (URO, p. 59)

WHEREAS, It is unclear under present Bylaws practice whether the Board of Appeals or the Commission on Constitutional Matters has the final and binding authority in cases which involve interpretations of the Constitution and Bylaws; therefore be it

Resolved, That this matter be referred to a study committee, appointed by the President, which shall also include members of the Board of Appeals and the Commission on Constitutional Matters, to review sections in the *Handbook* pertinent to the appellate process and to report to the next convention.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Accept into Membership Certain Congregations

RESOLUTION 5-31

Overture 5-76X (Unpublished overture)

WHEREAS, Pleasant Hill Lutheran Church of Pleasant Hill, Oreg., and Hope Lutheran Church of Woodburn, Oreg., have applied for membership in the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That these congregations be approved for membership in the Synod; and be it also

Resolved, That the signing of the Constitution take place at the convention of their District, in accordance with Section 1.03 of the *Handbook*.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Decline Report on Principles to Govern Synodical Elections and Appointments

RESOLUTION 5-32

Report 5-68U (URO, pp. 59—60)

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the committee that Report 5-68U detracts from the democratic nature of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The principles enunciated herein are ambiguous; therefore be it

Resolved, That Report 5-68U be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the Council of Administrators be encouraged to offer specific recommendations which relate to concrete issues as a means of clarifying these principles.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Revise Bylaws re Election of Circuit Counselors

RESOLUTION 5-33

Overtures 5-52 (CW, p. 246); 5-55U (URO, p. 55)

Resolved, That Section 3.61 b of the Bylaws be revised to read:

... The nominations shall be made during the election year at least 6 months prior to the convention of the District and shall be submitted to the Nominating Committee through the office of the Secretary of the District. If no candidate has received a majority, the District Secretary shall mail to each congregation in that circuit a ballot containing the names of the two men receiving the highest number of votes. and be it also

Resolved, That Section 3.39 of the Bylaws delete the words, "Circuit Counselors," and Section 3.39 b read,

b. All other officers and boards may be elected in any District convention for the time of service fixed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Revise Bylaws 2.15 and 3.35 re Holding More than One Office

RESOLUTION 5-34

Report 5-01, IV, B (CW, p. 225)

Resolved, That Sections 2.15 and 3.35 of the Bylaws be revised as follows:

2.15 (and 3.35) Holding More than One Office

a. No one, either in the Synod or in a District, or between the Synod and a District, shall hold more than one elective office; or more than two offices, although one or both be appointive; or ever hold two offices of which one is directly responsible for the work done by the other.

b. An office shall be regarded as elective only if it is an office filled through election by a synodical or a District convention, even though a vacancy in such an office may be filled by appointment.

c. Doubtful cases shall be decided by the President of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

6. HIGHER EDUCATION**To Commend the Board for Higher Education****RESOLUTION 6-01****Report 6-01 (CW, pp. 247—260)**

WHEREAS, The report and the personnel of the Board for Higher Education have been very helpful to Floor Committee 6 in its task of formulating resolutions for the consideration of this convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our gratitude and appreciation for these valuable services.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Commend Concordia, Portland, Donors and Lutheran Education Society of Northwest District**RESOLUTION 6-02****Overtures 6-85, 6-86 (CW, pp. 335—336)**

Resolved, That we commend the Lutheran Christians of the Northwest for their sustained interest in higher education as evidenced by the successful completion of the \$500,000 drive for capital investment, scholarships, and land acquisition; and be it also

Resolved, That we congratulate the Lutheran Education Society of the Northwest District in its observance of the 50th anniversary of substantial and vigorous support given to Concordia College, Portland.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Commend Concordia, St. Paul, Donors**RESOLUTION 6-03****Overture 6-78 (CW, p. 333)**

Resolved, That we commend the Minnesota South District, the Minnesota North District, the Iowa District West, and other synodical Districts which have pledged themselves to gather a thankoffering of more than \$450,000 for the 75th anniversary of Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Commend Donors for Special Support of Concordia, Seward**RESOLUTION 6-04****Overture 6-74 (CW, p. 332)**

Resolved, That we commend the alumni, parents, and friends of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., for their continued interest in higher education through their gifts to the school's "Help Us Build" development program.

Action: Adopted (3).

To Convey Discretionary Authority to Consolidate Colleges**RESOLUTION 6-05****Report 6-01, 2, b (CW, p. 253); Overtures 6-45 to 6-47 (CW, p. 323)**

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the Board for Higher Education to evaluate continuously the Synod's system of higher education and to plan for future needs, thus eliminating the need for additional expensive studies; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Board for Higher Education for its continued conscientious concern for the Synod's professional needs and for the most efficient as well as economical operation of that system in accordance with the stated educational purposes of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education, after receiving the consent of the Boards of Control of the colleges involved and with the approval of the synodical Board of Directors and the Council of Presidents, be authorized to consolidate colleges to the extent required by the church's professional needs and by its financial condition.

Action: Adopted (6).

(In Session 3 an amendment was moved and seconded to insert "and the synodical convention" after "Council of Presidents." In Session 6 this amendment was voted down.)

To Decline to Form Panel for Critical Evaluation of Synodical Education System**RESOLUTION 6-06****Overture 6-44 (CW, p. 322)**

WHEREAS, The Synod's system of higher education has as its stated primary purpose the training of pastors and teachers; and

WHEREAS, A study of the feasibility of establishing synodical universities could only lead to the conclusion that such action would be economically impossible; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 6-44 be declined.

Action: Adopted (6).

To Enlarge Student Aid and Recruitment Programs**RESOLUTION 6-07****Report 6-01, 3, c (CW, p. 255)**

WHEREAS, Student fees at our colleges and seminaries continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, The Synod finds it increasingly difficult to maintain adequate subsidies; and

WHEREAS, Rising educational costs may also be a factor in the decline of the number of ministerial students; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod ask all District leaders to

reexamine their student aid budgets and make efforts to increase such aid; and be it further

Resolved, That parishes, pastors, and people be encouraged to establish and enlarge student aid programs; and be it further

Resolved, That vigorous and steady recruitment of professional church workers continue on all levels, and that the Board for Higher Education provide energetic leadership in such recruitment efforts; and be it finally

Resolved, That special emphasis be given to the recruitment and subsidy of full-time church workers from minority groups.

Action: *Adopted as amended (6).*

(The fourth resolved was added by amendment. Another amendment to add "and assemble Synodwide or regional conferences of recruitment workers" to the third resolved failed to carry.)

To Avoid Duplication of Programs

RESOLUTION 6-08

Report 6-01, 2, (CW, pp. 253—254)

WHEREAS, The multiplication of graduate schools and specialized programs becomes increasingly competitive and expensive in terms of men and money; and

WHEREAS, It is critically necessary that the Board for Higher Education vigorously pursue "the studies concerning the consolidation of programs" (CW, p. 254); and

WHEREAS, Regional considerations make it difficult for a synodical convention to reach decisions in such matters; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education be given discretionary authority to assign specialized and graduate programs to appropriate schools in such a way that unnecessary duplication is avoided and that any existing unnecessary duplication is ended, without, however, altering or extending the synodically assigned purpose of the schools involved.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Revise Church Work Deposit Fee Program

RESOLUTION 6-09

Overture 6-62 (CW, p. 329)

WHEREAS, At present the church work deposit fee is refunded to a graduate of a synodical school when inducted or installed into office; and

WHEREAS, This policy does not take into consideration the number of years of service the person renders; therefore be it

Resolved, That beginning with the graduates of the class of 1971, each student be given one fourth of the deposit fee during the first year after installation or induction into office and that an additional one fourth of the fee be refunded during each of the next 3 years of service in one of the ministries of the church.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Encourage Training in Evangelism

RESOLUTION 6-10

Overture 6-64 (CW, pp. 329—330)

WHEREAS, The techniques and the theology of evangelism must always be a concern of the church; and

WHEREAS, Curriculum building is a technical matter with wide ramifications, especially when required courses are under consideration; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the faculties for their past interest in the vital area of evangelism training; and be it also

Resolved, That we encourage them to continue in this concern for equipping the saints also in this service to their Lord, the church, and their fellowmen.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Reduce Number of Required Board Meetings

RESOLUTION 6-11

Overture 6-56 (CW, p. 326)

WHEREAS, Local Boards of Control have discretionary authority to meet as often as necessary; and

WHEREAS, There is neither economy nor necessity in the present *Handbook* requirement that a Board of Control must meet at least five times a year; therefore be it

Resolved, That, effective immediately, Boards of Control shall meet at least three times a year; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod's Commission on Constitutional Matters change Section 6.33 a in the synodical *Handbook* accordingly.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Increase Salaries for Synodical Faculty Personnel

RESOLUTION 6-12

Report 6-01, 4; Overtures 6-60, 6-61 (CW, pp. 255—256, 327—329); 6-91U, 6-94U (URO, pp. 63—64)

WHEREAS, The salaries paid to synodical faculty personnel are appreciably lower than those paid for comparable services in general higher education; and

WHEREAS, Inflation continues its disastrous effects on the budgets of full-time church workers; and

WHEREAS, Concerned congregations and Districts properly attack this problem by regularly reviewing and adjusting the salaries of their pastors and teachers; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod show a like-minded concern for the salaries of its faculty members; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education invite representatives of Boards of Control and of the

synodical Board of Directors to join the Board for Higher Education in a search for a resolution to the problem; and be it finally

Resolved, That the provision for substantial additions to the salaries of all current synodical instructional and administrative faculty personnel be included in the 1970 fiscal budget of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (11).*

RESOLUTION 6-13

(This was withdrawn by the committee since the subject matter [method of electing institutional presidents] was covered in Resolution 6-35).

To Provide for Continuing Education of Pastors

RESOLUTION 6-14

Report 6-01; Overtures 4-24, 6-65 to 6-67 (CW, pp. 218, 251-258, 330-331)

WHEREAS, The Synod's 6,000 pastors need opportunities for in-service professional growth to keep current on changes in the theological and social climate; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education create a Division for Continuing Education to develop a team effort between the Synod, Districts, congregations, and pastors which will utilize the Synod's college and seminary campuses in a Synodwide program to provide an opportunity for every parish pastor to participate in a 2-week or 3-week program of study and fellowship in the summer of every fifth year; and be it further

Resolved, That in the summer of 1970 a pilot project for 100 pastors be conducted at Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and be it further

Resolved, That \$25,000 be allocated for the pilot project; and be it finally

Resolved, That a detailed evaluation of the pilot program be presented to the Synod in 1971.

Action: *Adopted (11).*

To Refer Request to Amend Colloquy Requirements for Seminary Students

RESOLUTION 6-15

Overture 6-49 (CW, p. 324)

WHEREAS, The Synod's Colloquy Committee is aware of the need to remain flexible in its procedure but never at the expense of the standards of theological training set by the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The residency and vicarage requirements referred to in the overture are under consideration by the Colloquy Committee; therefore be it

Resolved, That this overture be referred to the Colloquy Committee.

Action: *Referred to the Council of Presidents for action (16).*

To Decline to Create Theological Examining Boards for Ministerial Candidates

RESOLUTION 6-16

Overture 6-48 (CW, p. 324)

WHEREAS, It is the responsibility of the seminaries to certify graduates for ordination; and

WHEREAS, The multiplication of certification and examining boards would tend toward confusion and chaos; therefore be it

Resolved, That this overture be respectfully declined.

Action: *Referred to the Council of Presidents for action (16).*

To Refer Language Change Requirements

RESOLUTION 6-17

Overture 6-63 (CW, p. 329)

WHEREAS, Language requirements and other standards comprising a given degree program must be determined by the school; and

WHEREAS, Our seminaries are already studying this matter in response to a New York convention resolution; therefore be it

Resolved, That this request for a study of the feasibility of modifying language requirements for special students be referred to the two seminaries.

Action: *Referred to the St. Louis and Springfield faculties for action (16).*

To Refer Charges re Sensitivity Training

RESOLUTION 6-18

Overture 6-69 (CW, p. 331)

WHEREAS, This overture apparently is based on inaccurate and inadequate information; and

WHEREAS, No documentation is supplied to support the charges; therefore be it

Resolved, That the author of the overture be referred to the President and the Board of Control of the school involved.

Action: *Referred to Oakland Board of Control for action (16).*

To Study Correlation of Training Programs for Professional Ministries

RESOLUTION 6-19

Overture 6-50 (CW, p. 324)

WHEREAS, The study of a closer correlation in the training programs for our professional workers was assigned to the Board for Higher Education by the 1967 convention (6-27); and

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education now has such a study in progress; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education be encouraged to continue its studies of such a program.

Action: Referred to Board for Higher Education for action (16).

To Continue Seward Concordia High School RESOLUTION 6-20

Overture 6-73 (CW, p. 332)

WHEREAS, The Seward Concordia High School serves as a laboratory for the secondary teacher training program of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr., providing opportunities in the areas of research and experimentation; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education be encouraged to continue the Seward Concordia High School.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Commend St. Louis Board of Control re "A Layman's Concern . . ."

RESOLUTION 6-21

Report 6-04 (CW, pp. 261—268)

WHEREAS, The Board of Control of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in its report has asked that the Synod express itself with regard to the board's dealings with Mr. Marcus Braun; and

WHEREAS, Committee 6 has reviewed the report of the St. Louis seminary to the Synod and the correspondence of the Board of Control and its subcommittee in response to "A Layman's Concern About His Church" by Mr. Braun; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Board of Control for its efforts to meet with Mr. Braun and for its efforts in supervising and protecting the professors under its jurisdiction; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage the Board of Control to persist in its efforts to meet with Mr. Braun as soon as possible for a brotherly discussion; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod urge Mr. Marcus Braun to meet with the Board of Control and to distribute no more copies of his "A Layman's Concern About His Church" until he has met with the Board of Control.

Action: Adopted as amended (16).

(The final resolved was added by amendment. Another amendment to allow Mr. Braun to bring two witnesses failed to carry.)

To Approve Capital Projects

RESOLUTION 6-22

Report 6-01, "Capital Funds Projects" (CW, pp. 259 to 260)

WHEREAS, The projected capital fund projects far exceed the approximately \$500,000 which may be available from the Ebenezer Thankoffering; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recommend the following projects for the next biennium:

<i>Ann Arbor</i>	
Earhart Road Street Paving	\$ 90,000
Boiler Pumps	48,000
Utility Lines	10,000
<i>Austin</i>	
Air Conditioning (partial)	25,000
<i>Bronxville</i>	
Feth Hall Renovation (partial)	70,000
<i>Concordia</i>	
Kaepfel Auditorium Redecoration	8,000
<i>Fort Wayne</i>	
Major Drives Repair	20,000
<i>Milwaukee</i>	
Site Acquisition	50,000
<i>Portland</i>	
Parking Lots	10,000
<i>River Forest</i>	
Air Conditioning (partial)	50,000
<i>St. Paul</i>	
South Building Razing	10,000
<i>Selma</i>	
Student Center	75,000
<i>Springfield</i>	
Site Acquisition (partial)	75,000
Wessel Hall Air Conditioning	17,000
<i>Winfield</i>	
Meyer Hall Renovation and Air Conditioning	47,000
Total	\$605,000

Action: Adopted (16).

To Permit Capital Fund Drive for Selma

RESOLUTION 6-23

Report 6-01, "Capital Funds Projects" (CW, pp. 259 to 260)

WHEREAS, A study of the projected needs of our colleges and seminaries seems to indicate some particularly urgent needs at our school in Selma, Ala.; and

WHEREAS, There are insufficient funds to meet these needs; therefore be it

Resolved, That Selma, with the guidance of the Board for Higher Education and the approval of the synodical Board of Directors, be permitted to approach the church directly for funds to underwrite the cost of additional capital projects.

Action: Recommitted (10) with instruction to give Selma top priority in construction list. Replaced by Res. 6-42.

To Require Faculty Members to Teach in Accordance with Synodical Resolutions

RESOLUTION 6-24

Overture 6-57 (CW, p. 327)

WHEREAS, The proper procedure for handling possible departures from the Synod's doctrinal position by synodical faculty members is given in the synodical *Handbook* (6.83); therefore be it

Resolved, That this overture be respectfully declined as unnecessary.

Action: *Adopted* (11).

To Recommend Formation of Lay Minister Status

RESOLUTION 6-25

Overtures 4-27, 6-71 (CW, pp. 218—219, 332); Report 6-98U (URO, pp. 67—70)

WHEREAS, The shortage of pastors has resulted in the use of lay ministers in certain areas, especially in the care of small and isolated parishes; and

WHEREAS, The training and certification of such lay ministers should be done in an orderly and uniform manner throughout the Synod; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod authorize the certification by the Council of Presidents of certain lay persons for the performance of certain carefully designated ministerial functions under approved supervision; and be it further

Resolved, That it shall be the responsibility of the appropriate District President to ascertain whether the functions which are assigned to or assumed by a lay minister are within the limitation of this certification; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod assign to the Committee on Colloquies for the pastoral office the responsibility of determining the characteristics and qualifications of candidates, of assigning to them additional educational experiences as may be indicated, and of recommending the particular areas of certification and the length of the term of certification of acceptable candidates to the Council of Presidents; and be it further

Resolved, That the Committee on Worship be asked to develop an appropriate rite for use in setting apart a lay minister for his appointive sacred office; and be it finally

Resolved, That the chairman of the Division of Higher Education provide for any additional arrangements and procedures necessary for an early implementation of this resolution.

Action: *Adopted* (11).

(An amendment to insert another resolved failed: "That the Synod authorize each District President to appoint a District committee to recruit, to arrange training for, and to assist in placing trained lay ministers according to the regulations of the Board for Colloquies.")

To Study Preseminary Education

RESOLUTION 6-26

Overtures 6-72, 6-75 to 6-77 (CW, pp. 332—333)

WHEREAS, Some synodical institutions have expressed a readiness to offer programs in preseminary education in addition to those programs now offered in combination at synodical junior colleges and Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne; and

WHEREAS, Some students are showing a growing interest in programs for preseminary education other than those which previously have been prescribed by the church; and

WHEREAS, The introduction of a pastoral training program at Seward and the expansion of the pastoral training program at St. Paul from two to four years would have serious implications with regard to the Synod's established system of preseminary training both as to policy and as to cost; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod reaffirm the traditional programs of preseminary education which our Synod has developed; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod be alert to interest in added choices in programs for preseminary education; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod decline to authorize the enrollment of pastoral training students in the junior and senior class levels of the teachers colleges at Seward and St. Paul at this time; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod direct the Board for Higher Education to assess the developments noted above and to bring to the synodical convention in 1971 specific recommendations for any feasible new programs for preseminary education.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Continue Election of Brazil Boards of Control by Synodical Convention

RESOLUTION 6-27

Overture 6-87 (CW, p. 336)

WHEREAS, The convention of the Brazil District, the Board of Directors of the Brazil District, and two out of three Boards of Control of our synodical schools in Brazil have expressed the desire to continue the present practice of electing Brazil boards of control by synodical conventions; therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully decline this overture.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Refer Bible and Missionary Training

RESOLUTION 6-28

Overtures 6-95U, 6-101U (URO, pp. 64—65, 70—71)

WHEREAS, The study of Scriptures and the worldwide proclamation of the Gospel are at the heart of curriculum building at all of our synodical schools; therefore be it

Resolved, That these overtures, seeking the establishment of a special Bible and missionary training center, be referred to the Board for Higher Education for further evaluation and study.

Action: Referred to the Board for Higher Education for action (16).

To Decline Required Annual Seminary Self-Evaluation

RESOLUTION 6-29

Overture 6-89U (URO, p. 63)

WHEREAS, Self-evaluation is the order of the day and is done on a continuous basis at both seminaries and indeed also at our colleges; therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully decline this overture.

Action: Referred to the Board for Higher Education for action (16).

To Hire Instructors from Minority Groups

RESOLUTION 6-30

Overture 6-90U (URO, p. 63)

WHEREAS, Our church serves people of a great variety of racial backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, The synodical *Handbook* contains no racial restrictions with reference to the faculty personnel; therefore be it

Resolved, That the synodical schools be encouraged to continue to consider competent instructors from minority groups whenever the staffing needs of the institutions call for instructional services in the field of the professional competence of such instructors.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Refer Lay Higher Education Report

RESOLUTION 6-31

Report 6-97U (URO, pp. 65-67)

WHEREAS, The important area of lay higher education is the object of growing interest in the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The detailed report given in this overture merits further thought and study; therefore be it



Resolved, That the report and its recommendations be referred to the Board for Higher Education for evaluation; and be it also

Resolved, That this committee be dismissed with the sincere thanks of the Synod.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Continue Professional Education Programs in Extension Centers

RESOLUTION 6-32

Overture 6-99U (URO, p. 70)

WHEREAS, The in-service training of our pastors and teachers is essential to their professional growth, especially in these rapidly changing times; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend both seminaries for the programs of continuing education which they have offered, and heartily encourage the continuation of such courses and seminars.

Action: Referred to the Board for Higher Education for action (16).

To Encourage Recruitment of Professional Church Workers

RESOLUTION 6-33

Overtures 6-102U (URO, p. 71)

WHEREAS, It is true that the fields are white and the laborers are few; and

WHEREAS, The joy of serving the Lord in full-time church work should constantly be emphasized to our young people; therefore be it

Resolved, That recruitment be laid upon the hearts of all pastors, teachers, people, and faculties; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend those synodical schools which already have vigorous recruitment programs; and be it finally

Resolved, That we encourage every synodical school to have among its personnel at least one person who shall give special attention to a continuous recruitment program.

Carried 10/2/69

Action: Referred to the Council of Presidents for Action (16).

To Encourage Congregations in Their Support of Valparaiso University

RESOLUTION 6-34

Overture 6-68 (CW, p. 331)

WHEREAS, Valparaiso University is the only university within The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, This school suffers the financial problems of all private schools; and

WHEREAS, Valparaiso University has the aim of sup-

plying higher education in a Christian Lutheran context; and

WHEREAS, The present financial condition of the Synod's treasury makes budgetary assistance to the university difficult, if not impossible; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage congregations to remember Valparaiso University's great need in their annual offering in its behalf.

Action: *Adopted (11).*

To Amend Bylaws (Colleges and Seminaries)

RESOLUTION 6-35

Overtures 6-43, 6-51 to 6-55, 6-58, 6-59 (*CW*, pp. 315—322, 324—327); 6-90U, 6-92U (*URO*, pp. 63—64)

WHEREAS, Current practices make certain synodical *Handbook* regulations obsolete, inapplicable, or impracticable; therefore be it

Resolved, That selected Bylaws in the synodical *Handbook* be revised as follows:

6.11 Meetings with the Faculties

Delete

6.27 Election of Elective Members

b. The required number of elective members for each Board of Control shall be elected by the voting delegates to the convention.

Delete c and d.

6.39 General Functions and Duties

h. The Board of Control may appoint, or cause to be appointed or elected, standing or special committees consisting of its members or of any other persons qualified to participate in the designated activity of the committee.

6.53 Appointments of Members of the Faculty

a. The Board of Control, on recommendation of the president of the institution and with the prior consent of the Board for Higher Education, shall appoint the members of the faculty. Initial appointments to the theological seminaries require also the prior approval of their electors.

b. Appointments shall ordinarily be for terms of one to four years. Appointments with permanent tenure may also be made if the candidate has already been granted permanent tenure by another educational institution of the Synod or if the requirements for the granting of permanent tenure are satisfied at the time the appointment is made.

c. The Board of Control may decline to renew the appointment of a faculty member without tenure at its discretion and without formal statement of cause. If reappointment to the teaching staff is not contemplated, the Board of Control shall so notify the faculty member, through the president of the institution, at least 6 months prior to the expiration of the current appointment.

d. The terms and conditions of every appointment shall be stated in writing and be in the possession of both the institution and the prospective faculty member before the appointment is consummated. Limitations of academic freedom because of the religious nature and aims of the institution shall be stated in writing at the time of the appointment and conveyed to the person being appointed.

e. From time to time the Board for Higher Education shall provide general statements on selection and advancement criteria based on academic, professional, ministerial, or other applicable qualifications.

f. Ordinarily candidates for teaching positions with tenure on the Synod's instructional staffs shall be graduates of a theological seminary or teachers college affiliated with the Synod or shall have achieved such status by colloquy. When, exceptionally, laymen are involved, they should be persons

who are solemnly pledged to the Holy Scriptures as the inspired Word of God and to the Lutheran Confessions.

Delete g to j.

6.54 Permanent Tenure

a. The Board of Control may grant permanent tenure at any time to any member of the faculty, regardless of rank, upon the recommendation of the president and with the prior consent of the Board for Higher Education and the electors of the institution (see 6.115).

b. The electors may grant such consent by any appropriate procedure 4 weeks after a notice of the intent to grant tenure has been published in the official publications of the Synod.

c. If a faculty member completes 7 years of creditable service (periods of leave are not included) as a member of the faculty of one or more educational institutions of the Synod of collegiate or seminary level, at least the last four of which shall be in the institution he is currently serving, and has not been granted permanent tenure, he shall be granted permanent tenure. His 7 years of creditable service shall be deemed sufficient satisfaction of all probationary requirements.

d. The granting of permanent tenure shall in no case be construed as requiring or indicating advancement in rank.

6.55 Ranking of Members of Staff

a. The Board of Control shall determine the assignment and rank of members of the faculty and of the administrative officers.

b. The approved nomenclature for the ranks of faculty members is: instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor.

c. The descriptive prefixes "visiting" or "guest" may be used, when appropriate, with the designation of any rank. The descriptive suffix "emeritus" may be used, when appropriate, with the designation for any rank, by special resolution of the Board of Control in the case of each person to be so designated.

d. Persons appointed with the designation "graduate assistant" shall not be voting members of the faculty but may be granted other faculty privileges and benefits as determined by the Board of Control.

6.59 Faculty Organizations and Meetings

e. The faculty shall elect a secretary and provide for the election of committees, consisting of faculty members or of faculty members and other persons, who shall study, evaluate, and report to the faculty on policy matters affecting the activity of the institution, the activity and welfare of the members of the faculty, and the life and welfare of the students.

6.73 Exchanges and Transfers

Delete

6.79 Modified Service and Retirement

a. The president of a synodical institution may be honorably retired from his presidential responsibilities by action of the Board of Control, or at his request, at any time after the end of the school year in which he attains the age of 60, or after 15 years of service as president of the same school. He shall be relieved of his presidential responsibility at the end of the school year in which he reaches the age of 65.

b. A president who has been honorably retired from his presidential responsibilities shall ordinarily no longer be actively associated with the school which he last served.

c. A president who has been honorably retired may elect to serve under the direct jurisdiction of the Board for Higher Education. In such cases the retired president's compensation and benefits shall be a direct responsibility of the Board for Higher Education, and his responsibilities and assignments, if any, shall be determined by that Board.

d. Former presidents shall continue to hold the rank of professor if and when they become members of a faculty or staff of a synodical school or if they opt to serve directly under the Board for Higher Education. Former presidents shall also retain the synodical housing and retirement provisions for professors and administrators.

e. Faculty members may be honorably retired or trans-

ferred to modified service by action of the Board of Control at the age of 65 or any year thereafter and shall be retired at the age of 75.

f. Service loads and conditions of service after age 65 shall be modified according to individual capacity and shall be determined by the Board of Control.

g. The compensation of a faculty member who is on modified service may be reduced provided that the Board of Control shall, upon diligent and regular inquiry, satisfy itself that the total income available to him is sufficient to provide a level of living appropriate to his status.

E. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

6.101 Call for Nominations

The Board of Control, with prior consent of the Board for Higher Education, shall issue, in the official publications of the Synod, a call for the nomination of candidates for the presidency of the institution. The call for nominations shall describe the office and the qualifications desired to fill it.

6.103 Who May Nominate Candidates

Candidates may be nominated by congregations of the Synod, the Board for Higher Education, the Board of Control, and the faculty of the institution.

6.105 Status and Parish Experience of Candidates

Delete

6.107 Publication of Names of Nominees

All nominations must be filed with the secretary of the Board of Control within 90 days of the date of its published request unless the request sets a later date. The secretary of the Board of Control shall thereupon publish the names of the nominees in the official publications of the Synod, stating also the date on which the election is to be held, which shall be not less than 6 weeks after the date of the publication of the names of the nominees. Copies of the notice shall at the same time be sent to the President of the Synod and the Board for Higher Education.

6.109 Recommendations or Objections

All recommendations, statements of qualifications of any nominees, or objections to any nominee with reasons therefor, must be filed with the Board of Control before the time fixed for the election. If a charge of false doctrine or offensive life is registered, the Board of Electors shall investigate and reach a decision on such charge before proceeding with the election.

6.111 President of the Institution to Make Recommendations

Delete

6.113 The Faculty Committee

A committee elected by the faculty shall make a careful analysis of the needs of the institution, the requirements of the Synod, and the academic and personal qualifications of the nominees. To this end the secretary of the Board of Control shall make available to this committee all information, recommendations, and objections which he shall receive. On the basis of its studies, the faculty committee shall make pertinent recommendations to the electors with regard to the choice of a suitable person from a list of candidates which they propose for the electors' consideration.

6.115 Electors

At a meeting of the Board of Control held to elect a president, there shall be present and voting as electors: the members of the Board of Control as a group with one vote (the District President not voting with the board); the President of the synodical District or his official representative with a distinct vote; the President of the Synod or his official representative with one vote; and the chairman of the Board for Higher Education or his official representative with one vote.

6.117 Elections

The election shall be held on the day designated in the notice published in the official publications of the Synod or as soon thereafter as feasible; and after due consideration of the recommendations and statements of qualifications submitted on behalf of all nominees, or of objections to any, there shall be elected from the list of candidates proposed by the faculty committee or as amended by it after mutual

consent with the electors, as the case may be, the person best qualified for the position to be filled, or the Board of Control shall be requested by the electors to postpone the election or to issue a new call for nominations as conditions may indicate.

6.125 Authority to Create and Abolish Professorships, etc.

Delete

6.127 Appointment to Positions Not Requiring a Call

Delete

6.129 Names of Possible Candidates

Delete

6.145 Current Operating Budget of Institutions

Delete

6.146 Budget Adjustments

b. The Board of Control may on recommendation of the president of the school make necessary internal transfers of current budget funds from one classification or account to another within the institution's budget. Notification of this internal transfer of current funds is to be conveyed to the Board for Higher Education.

6.147 Budget for Capital Improvements

On a regular basis, the schedule to be determined by the Board for Higher Education, the Board of Control shall submit to the Board for Higher Education proposals for major repairs, capital improvements, and purchase of equipment. After due consideration of these proposals, the Board for Higher Education shall submit its recommendations to the Board of Directors.

6.165 Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Delete

6.167 Concordia Seminary, Springfield

Delete

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Define Eligibility Criteria for Appointment to Synodical Faculties

RESOLUTION 6-36

Overture 6-43 (CW, pp. 315—322)

WHEREAS, The amended Bylaws applicable to synodical colleges and seminaries do not include a definition of eligibility criteria for appointment to the faculty of a synodical college or seminary; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod request the Board for Higher Education to propose a section on such eligibility criteria for the consideration of the next convention and for inclusion in the official *Handbook* of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Revise Bylaws re Removal from Faculty Positions

RESOLUTION 6-37

Overture 6-43 (CW, pp. 315—322)

WHEREAS, Sections 6.75, 6.77, 6.81, and 6.83 do not reflect current concepts of procedure in higher education when removal from faculty positions becomes necessary; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod request its Board for Higher Education to prepare a revision of the *Handbook* sections listed above, in consultation with the Commission on Constitutional Matters and with appropriate

legal authorities, for the consideration of the next convention and for inclusion in the official *Handbook* of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Restudy Assignment Procedures (Bylaw 6.163)

RESOLUTION 6-38

Overture 6-43 (CW, pp. 315—322)

WHEREAS, The number and variety of church workers available for assignment makes the procedure authorized in *Handbook* Section 6.163 increasingly cumbersome; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod request the Council of (District) Presidents to restudy this section and to propose any appropriate revisions which their findings may indicate to the next convention for inclusion in the synodical *Handbook*.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Authorize Development of 4-Year Programs

RESOLUTION 6-39

Overtures 6-79 to 6-84 (CW, pp. 333—335); 6-93U (URO, p. 64)

WHEREAS, The reports of the Board for Higher Education and the college presidents indicate a strong trend toward 4-year programs; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has had a number of requests for permission to develop specific institutions into 4-year colleges; and

WHEREAS, Some of these requests display merit and promise of strong local support, as demonstrated by the overtures listed above; and

WHEREAS, The question of the creation, expansion, or relocation of a synodical institution requires expert and professional study; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend our schools for their institutional studies in attempts to meet criteria of the Board for Higher Education for expansion of junior colleges; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod endorse the development of carefully defined 4-year programs in principle; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education, with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Synod, the Council of Presidents, and the local Board of Control, be authorized to grant approval and to permit development of such carefully prepared 4-year programs as serve the purposes of the church and are economically defensible.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Develop Higher Education on West Coast

RESOLUTION 6-40

Overtures 6-23 to 6-42 (CW, pp. 306—315); 6-96U, 6-100U (URO, pp. 65, 70)

WHEREAS, The New York convention resolved that "the Board for Higher Education make a final restudy of the entire matter of higher education on the West Coast" (Resolution 6-12, pp. 127—128); and

WHEREAS, In its restudy the Board for Higher Education has concluded that "the needs for the West Coast . . . seem to point to a need for some type of consolidation for greater effectiveness and efficiency" (CW, p. 253); and

WHEREAS, All of the educational issues which revolve around the number, location, format, and character of synodical institutions on the West Coast remain extremely difficult and complex and, in spite of careful joint study by the Board for Higher Education, the West Coast synodical Districts, and professional consultants, no single plan commends itself at this time by its obvious validity and advantage in view of the factors of change; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education be directed to continue in its efforts to resolve and provide for the needs of higher education on the West Coast as those needs relate to the overall structure and philosophy of synodical higher education; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education present its findings and recommendations to the synodical Board of Directors and to the Council of Presidents no later than Dec. 1, 1970, so that a definitive recommendation for the resolution of this problem can be presented to the next synodical convention; and be it finally

Resolved, That both the Irvine property in Orange County and the Lake Chabot property in the Bay area be retained pending final disposition of this question.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Retain Current Procedure for Setting Lower Level Enrollment Procedure for Teachers Colleges

RESOLUTION 6-41

Overture 6-88 (CW, p. 336)

WHEREAS, The setting of lower level enrollment quotas by the Synod in convention was established by the New York convention in 1967; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education reports that the system is working satisfactorily; therefore be it

Resolved, That we respectfully decline this overture.

Action: *In place of Res. 6-41 the convention adopted (16) the following substitute resolution proposed from the floor:*

WHEREAS, The setting of enrollment quotas is prop-

erly the responsibility of the Board for Higher Education; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board for Higher Education shall have discretionary power to establish enrollment quotas at our synodical institutions.

To Provide Capital Funds for Selma College

RESOLUTION 6-42 (Recommitted 6-23)

Report 6-01, "Capital Funds Projects" (CW, pp. 259 to 260)

WHEREAS, There can be no doubt that great need for educational buildings and for faculty housing exists at the Selma institution; and

WHEREAS, The Christians of our Synod earnestly desire, out of love for their brethren, to meet those needs; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has instructed its boards to provide the best possible educational programs for training its ministers and teachers on her college campuses; and

WHEREAS, There are insufficient budget funds available to meet the needs at Selma; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod grant a sum of money up to \$1,000,000 to the Selma college, said grant to be funded by:

- 1) available building and loan funds for faculty housing;
- 2) any currently pending allocations;
- 3) whatever items are included for Selma in the approved capital funds resolution of this convention;
- 4) a Synodwide appeal for funds at the appropriate time; and be it finally

Resolved, That the delegates at this convention pledge themselves also personally to bring the story of Selma to their congregations and circuits and to support the synodical appeal when it is issued.

Action: Adopted (16).

(This resolution replaced 6-23, which was recommitted in Session 10.

An amendment to reword the resolution to read "a sum of \$1,000,000 or more" failed to carry.

Also voted down was an amendment to insert between the two resolves an additional resolved that if an alternate course becomes available that will provide the same or better facilities at substantially lower cost to the Synod the same be given prior consideration.

Another amendment changing the resolved to read "a minimum of \$250,000 and up to \$1,000,000" failed.)

7. PARISH EDUCATION

To Emphasize Christian Education and the Edifying Word

RESOLUTION 7-01

Report 7-01, I, D, Recommendation 1 (CW, p. 339)

WHEREAS, The Detroit convention of the Synod affirmed that the church is God's mission to His church,

to the whole world, and to man's whole self and society; and

WHEREAS, At the Synod's New York convention the Board of Parish Education emphasized the necessity of equipping all the members of Christ's body to enable them to be God's mission to His church and world; and

WHEREAS, The Synod at New York adopted a "Call to Action" to initiate a reformation in parish education that would lead to congregational renewal and would move congregations forward in mission; and

WHEREAS, Christian education is the process of communication by which God's edifying Word is proclaimed, taught, exemplified, heard, seen, received in faith, experienced, and lived in personal and corporate responses by the Spirit's power; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in convention assert that Christian education, understood as the communication of God's edifying Word, is essential to the life of the church and is the primary process and fundamental activity of the church in mission and the basic means for church renewal.

Action: Adopted (4).

To Initiate Parish Renewal Through Education

RESOLUTION 7-02

Report 7-01, I, D, Recommendation 2 (CW, p. 339)

WHEREAS, The commitment to Christian education as the fundamental process of the church in mission must be a commitment of each Christian; and

WHEREAS, In a constantly changing world God graciously gives to each generation its own unique opportunities to communicate the eternal truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of its time; therefore be it

Resolved, That every congregation be urged by the Synod to study the Scriptural basis for the work of the church in Christian education in order to better understand the church's function in Christian education and assess the opportunities inherent in its own social and cultural environment; and be it further

Resolved, That Parish Renewal Through Education materials and plans be recommended as an effective way by which congregations can conduct their self-study; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod and District Boards of Parish Education assist the congregations in conducting a self-study and stand ready to aid them in implementing their findings; and be it finally

Resolved, That other departments and boards of the Synod and the Districts be invited to view Parish Renewal Through Education as an excellent opportunity for strengthening and undergirding the entire work of the church.

Action: Adopted (4).

To Expand and Improve Educational Programs

RESOLUTION 7-03

Report 7-01, I, D, Recommendation 3 (CW, p. 339)

WHEREAS, The world in which the members of the church have been called to give their Christian witness is rapidly changing and demands an open, relevant, evangelical, and Spirit-filled Christian education program; and

WHEREAS, Congregations which conscientiously examine and reevaluate their Christian education programs in view of rising needs in the dynamic years of the seventies recognize that more than one hour per week of instruction time is necessary for effective Christian nurture; and

WHEREAS, Professional leadership and supervision is necessary to develop programs that are relevant to the needs of the local congregations; therefore be it

Resolved, That every congregation be urged to develop a variety of meaningful learning settings and experiences for Christians of all age levels by—

1) providing a basic program of Christian nurture and education for every child and youth through either a day school or a weekday school;

2) extending the basic program with such agencies as Sunday school and vacation Bible school;

3) providing an effective youth and adult education ministry through programs that are relevant and appropriate;

4) carefully selecting and thoroughly training all church school teachers;

5) providing professional educational leadership through wise utilization of Christian day school teachers or by engaging a director of Christian education;

6) cooperating with sister congregations in sharing educational resources, programs and personnel.

Action: Adopted (9).

(An amendment to add "or a combination of both" to number 1 failed.)

To Authorize Research in Christian Education

RESOLUTION 7-04

Report 7-01, I, D, Recommendation 4 (CW, p. 339), and II, E, Recommendation 6, 1 (CW, p. 359); Overtures 7-04, 7-09 (CW, pp. 360—362, 366); 7-12U (URO, p. 72)

WHEREAS, Christian education needs to be a vital force in our changing society; and

WHEREAS, Many are wondering whether our present educational forms and procedures are adequate; and

WHEREAS, Our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is looking for answers to these needs and yet has done little in the area of in-depth research with the intent

of finding the specific objectives and needs in our Lutheran educational program; and

WHEREAS, The synodical *Handbook* (7.25 f) directs the Board of Parish Education to "initiate and direct research activities necessary to promote and improve parish education"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod authorize its Board of Directors, together with the Board of Parish Education and Concordia Publishing House, to explore ways to provide funds for educational research; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of the Synod select a project director to initiate a comprehensive study of Christian education; and be it finally

Resolved, That this research be a team approach of the Board of Parish Education, the Board for Higher Education, and the Synod's terminal schools in cooperation with the synodical Department of Research and Statistics.

Action: Adopted (9).

To Encourage Government Support of Education

RESOLUTION 7-05

Overtures 7-03, 7-07, 7-10 (CW, pp. 360, 365, 366—367)

WHEREAS, The Detroit convention declared federal aid for children attending nonpublic schools acceptable, "so long as it does not interfere with the distinctive purposes for which such schools are maintained" (Resolution 7-03, pp. 153—154, *Proceedings*, 1965); and

WHEREAS, Children in nonpublic schools have already benefited from federal and state government programs without sacrificing the above-stated principle; and

WHEREAS, Supporters of nonpublic schools pay their full share of taxes for education; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention reaffirm its 1965 Detroit resolution 7-03: "To Deem Federal Aid Acceptable for Children Attending Nonpublic Schools"; and be it further

Resolved, That synodical, District, and congregational boards of education actively promote and, where possible, help to shape legislation which is acceptable in terms of the Detroit resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That in promoting such legislation these boards give attention to the needs of children in public and nonpublic schools, particularly of educationally deprived children; and be it finally

Resolved, That these boards continue to inform their several constituencies of available public aid benefits.

Action: Adopted as amended (12).

(By amendment the assembly deleted a fourth whereas: "Good stewardship and love compel Christians to seek government aid so that all children in the nation receive fair treatment from public aid benefits.")

The convention refused to reword the second resolved to read: "... actively promote where possible the utilization of federal aid acceptable in terms ..." and to drop from the next resolved the words: "in promoting such legislation.")

To Complete Confirmation Study Project

RESOLUTION 7-06

Overture 7-11U (URO, p. 72)

WHEREAS, The Joint Commission on the Theology and Practice of Confirmation of The American Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church in America, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has provided a study program to provide feedback from the congregation to assist the commission in evaluating the recommendations that were made; and

WHEREAS, The deadline of Aug. 1, 1969, was established to meet the needs of the participating groups; and

WHEREAS, The Commission will meet in November 1969 to consider the returns and prepare the revised report; therefore be it

Resolved, That the present deadline of Aug. 1, 1969, be observed; and be it also

Resolved, That congregations which have not had adequate time to complete their study by this deadline be encouraged to continue their study in preparation for consideration of the revised report.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

To Provide Uniform Documents for Day School Teachers

RESOLUTION 7-07

Overture 7-05 (CW, p. 362)

WHEREAS, Overture 7-05, which requested uniform call documents for day school teachers and uniform procedures of transferring male and female teachers, involves more than simple administrative action; and

WHEREAS, The recommendation, assignment, and transfer of day school teachers is the constitutional function of the District Presidents (*Handbook* 4.15, 4.17, 4.19, 4.25, 4.27, 4.45); therefore be it

Resolved, That this matter be referred to the Council of Presidents for further study; and be it also

Resolved, That a report be made at the next convention of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

To Encourage Better Salaries for Teachers

RESOLUTION 7-08

Overture 7-08 (CW, p. 366)

WHEREAS, Members of the teaching ministry are gifts of God unto the church and as such should receive an appreciative response which includes appropriate salaries; and

WHEREAS, "Patterns of Performance" for 1969—1970 emphasizes the study, evaluation, and recommendations pertaining to staff and resources of our Christian day schools with particular reference to work assignments and salary schedules; and

WHEREAS, Congregations, as well as District and synodical officials, are participating in "Patterns of Performance"; and

WHEREAS, Changing economic conditions make it necessary to review and adjust salaries annually and adequately; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge congregation members to become active in "Patterns of Performance" during 1969 to 1970, especially in regard to adopting salary scales comparable to those of other local educators with similar preparation and responsibilities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod instruct the District Presidents and officials to encourage congregational participation in developing salary scales; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Parish Education make a special report to the next convention on salary improvements; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod joyfully commend the congregations which have maintained appropriate salaries for their teachers.

Action: *Adopted (12).*

To Implement Urban Education Resolution

RESOLUTION 7-09

Report 7-01, II, D, 5 (CW, pp. 356—358)

WHEREAS, The church in its mission to itself and the society is confronted with social problems of critical magnitude, especially in urban issues; and

WHEREAS, The work of the Board of Parish Education in aiding the church in confronting these problems continues to be seriously hampered because a full-time person has not been made available to provide leadership and direction in dealing positively with urban issues; and

WHEREAS, The New York convention authorized the Board of Parish Education "to appoint an Editor-Consultant in urban education" and resolved "that the Synod reassess the priorities given to the allocation of funds in order to give high priority to this concern" (1967 *Proceedings*, pp. 143—144); and

WHEREAS, Financial problems have made it difficult for the Synod's Board of Directors to enable the Board of Parish Education to fill this vital position; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Directors be instructed to arrange its priorities so as to implement the New York resolution.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

RESOLUTION 7-10

(*This resolution re Overture 7-02 on the use of the RSV in the catechism was withdrawn by the committee since Committee 2 was offering a resolution on the same subject.*)

To Emphasize Pastoral Care to Families

RESOLUTION 7-11

Overture 7-06 (CW, pp. 362—365)

WHEREAS, The 1962 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod asked the Board of Parish Education to explore the church's needs and resources regarding marriage education and counseling and to prepare an adequate program of action; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Parish Education conducted three pilot seminars utilizing professional guest lecturers and clinically trained pastors; and

WHEREAS, The evaluation of these pilot programs indicates that pastors desire and need specialized training in their ministry to families; therefore be it

Resolved, That under the sponsorship of the Boards of Parish Education, Higher Education, Missions, Social Ministry, and the Wheat Ridge Foundation an intensive pastoral training program for family counseling be authorized by the Synod and cosponsored by interested Districts; and be it further

Resolved, That under professional leadership a series of 25 seminars for pastors, approximately 40 in each, be conducted over a 4-year period; and be it further

Resolved, That the plans for financing the project be approved and that the participating boards include their share of the cost in their work program and budget requests; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Parish Education be responsible for the implementation and administration of this program; and be it further

Resolved, That biennial reports and evaluations be made to the Synod through the Board of Parish Education; and be it finally

Resolved, That congregations be encouraged to make it possible for their pastors to participate in this project.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

To Consider Establishing Center for Study of Parish Life and Its Nurture

RESOLUTION 7-12

Report 7-01, I, D, Recommendation 5 (CW, p. 339)

WHEREAS, The Board for Higher Education report on ministerial training (CW, pp. 248—251) calls for openness to change in curriculum, modes of instruction, and relationships between preparation and professional ministry and urges experimentation and innovation; and

WHEREAS, A number of overtures to this convention (6-95U, 6-99U, 6-101U) ask the Synod to establish a Bible and Missionary Training Institute and professional continuing education programs in extension centers to keep missionaries, parish pastors, teachers, and professors in touch with theological and educational developments with the parish life and foreign fields of the church; and

WHEREAS, A number of graduate study and research

centers that provide setting and resources for professional seminars and experimentation have made distinct contributions on an advanced level to specific needs that are not adequately served by established schools; and

WHEREAS, The church dare not take its method of operation and the teaching of its saving, edifying Gospel for granted at a time in history when the world is forging ahead through research and advanced studies in far less important fields; therefore be it

Resolved, That in order to keep alert and be creatively farsighted in its educational mission and ministries, the Synod ask the boards in the Division of Parish Services to consider establishing a Center for the Study of Parish Life and Its Nurture, preferably in a local parish setting; and be it further

Resolved, That the possibility of conducting such a laboratory jointly with our terminal schools be explored so that it might provide an accredited program of parish education training for graduate students as well as pastors, teachers, youth leaders, missionaries, and laity.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

To Urge Congregations to Study "The Edifying Word"

RESOLUTION 7-13

Report 7-01 (CW, pp. 337—360)

WHEREAS, A study book on "The Edifying Word" was prepared for delegates to the Denver convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the hope that study groups in local congregations would later also gain some of the benefits of the convention essayist's presentation; therefore be it

Resolved, That for growth in understanding the mission of the church to itself, all congregations be urged to use the study book on "The Edifying Word" as a springboard for discussions of the convention theme in various kinds of local groups.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

To Give Thanks for Servants of Church

RESOLUTION 7-14

Report 7-01 (CW, pp. 337—360)

WHEREAS, God communicates His edifying Word to a disturbed world by His Spirit through His people; and

WHEREAS, God sends pastors and teachers to equip His people for their ministry of His Word; and

WHEREAS, The Reverend Doctor Oscar E. Feucht, retiring Secretary of Adult Education, and Doctor Arthur W. Gross, retiring Editor of Vacation Bible School Materials, faithfully served their Lord and the Synod for more than two decades, effectually enabling men and women, children and youth to join in Christ's proclamation of His Word, by especially emphasizing the need for lifelong study of and obedience to the Holy Scriptures; therefore be it

Resolved, That we praise God for making Himself and His life available to us through His Word; and be it further

Resolved, That we thank God for making available to His church the faith, love, insight, and skills of Doctor Feucht and Doctor Gross; and be it finally

Resolved, That we assure them of God's presence with them as they map out a fruitful retirement.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

To Accept Report of Board of Parish Education

RESOLUTION 7-15

Report 7-01 (CW, pp. 337—360)

WHEREAS, The Board of Parish Education has identified the critical educational issues facing the Synod today; and

WHEREAS, It has studied and made appropriate recommendations in its report to meet the needs and opportunities for effectively communicating the edifying Word to God's people; and

WHEREAS, The board and staff members have restructured their organization for greater efficiency and better coordination of their activities; and

WHEREAS, The board and staff have designed a new coordinated curriculum to meet the challenges of the seventies; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 48th convention of the Synod gratefully accept the report of the Board of Parish Education; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod express its joy for the ability and dedication demonstrated by both board and staff members.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

8. YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

To Change Representation on Board for Young People's Work

RESOLUTION 8-01

Overture 8-08U (URO, p. 72)

WHEREAS, Today's young people are maturing at a faster pace and at an earlier age than in former years; and

WHEREAS, Population statistics indicate that nearly one half of our population is under 25 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Experience indicates that our young people can be responsible and vital members of the church and that they desire a more meaningful involvement in the decision-making process as well as in the mission of the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That Handbook 7.71 be amended so that the Board for Young People's Work be composed of

ten (10) members equally representing adults and youth; and be it further

Resolved, That the adult members shall be composed of one pastor, one teacher, one representative of one of our synodical schools, and two laymen; and be it finally

Resolved, That the young people shall be chosen on a 2-year basis so as to represent the diverse interests and background of our church, conscious of age, and ethnic groups.

Action: *This resolution was adopted in Session 5. However, when the request was made in Session 7 that this resolution go into effect at this convention, it was resolved to refer to the Commission on Constitutional Matters the question of adding members to the Board for Young People's Work. See also Res. 8-12.*

RESOLUTION 8-02

(Withdrawn and replaced by Res. 8-13)

To Provide Youth Leadership Training

RESOLUTION 8-03

Overture 8-01, III, F (CW, p. 372)

WHEREAS, Our black and Latin American youth have called our attention to the pressing need for leadership development within their own constituency and community; and

WHEREAS, There continues to be a pressing need for church worker recruitment and training effective from and to all ethnic communities; and

WHEREAS, Our local congregations in the black and Latin American communities are suffering from the lack of youth workers who can administer effectively to these communities; therefore be it

Resolved, That this matter be referred to the Board for Young People's Work in consultation with the Board for Higher Education for serious study and immediate action with special attention to the recommendations of our black and Latin American brethren.

Action: *Adopted (15).*

To Continue Directions in Youth Ministry

RESOLUTION 8-04

Overtures 8-03 8-05, 8-06 (CW, pp. 374—375)

WHEREAS, Revolutionary changes of our times are demanding new forms of youth ministry; and

WHEREAS, The church of our Lord must be sufficiently flexible to adapt itself to new circumstances; and

WHEREAS, The new direction in youth ministry is a response to the Mission Affirmations of the Detroit convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the leaders and participants of the Prince of Peace Volunteer program and similar forms of youth ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage and direct the Board

for Young People's Work to continue this basic direction of carrying out Christ's mission to the world emphasizing the proclamation of the Gospel through word and also through active involvement in the world; and be it finally

Resolved, That we urge the Board for Young People's Work on the basis of insights already gained to provide relevant models and programs of such ministry for parish and community use.

Action: *Adopted* (12).

(An amendment to have the second resolved read "... the proclamation of the Gospel and also active involvement in the world" failed to carry.)

To Encourage All-Lutheran Youth Programing

RESOLUTION 8-05

Overture 8-04 (CW, p. 374)

WHEREAS, Many parishes on the local level are recognizing numerous opportunities in all-Lutheran youth projects on the local level; and

WHEREAS, Such sharing offers many new and fresh possibilities for a more effective mission to young people, as well as conserving financial aid and personnel resources, without jeopardizing our stand on pulpit and altar fellowship; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage the Board for Young People's Work to share and use materials and resources of the other Lutheran bodies in the implementation of the synodical youth program.

Action: *Adopted* (15).

(Adopted by a standing vote of 413 to 351.)

To Change Name of Youth Ministry

RESOLUTION 8-06

Overture 8-09U (URO, p. 72)

WHEREAS, Our synodical youth ministry is not an organization bearing a descriptive name beyond "Board for Young People's Work"; and

WHEREAS, Many of our local youth groups are desirous of some local identification; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage our local and area youth groups to select descriptive names of their own choice which fit their purposes and communicate the same to others.

Action: *Adopted* (6).

To Commend Walther League for Many Years of Service

RESOLUTION 8-07

Report 8-01 (CW, pp. 368—374)

WHEREAS, The Walther League has provided leadership and direction to youth ministry in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for a period of 75 years; and

WHEREAS, The Lord God has used the spirit of youth

to carry out His will and has shaped the spirit of youth to meet specific needs in the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That we give thanks to God for the service and blessings which this organization has given to the church through youthful minds and spirits; and be it also

Resolved, That we commend the Walther League to the Holy Spirit to continue to shape, use, and direct it in its newly adopted objectives for the glory of God and the welfare of man.

Action: *Adopted* (6).

To Decline Overture 8-02 Repudiating Present Walther League

RESOLUTION 8-08

Overture 8-02 (CW, p. 374)

WHEREAS, The present Walther League approach to issue-oriented youth ministry is consistent with the Mission Affirmations adopted at the Detroit convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overtures 8-02 be declined.

Action: *Adopted* (6).

To Accept Report of Board for Young People's Work

RESOLUTION 8-09

Report 8-01 (CW, pp. 368—374)

Resolved, That the Board for Young People's Work be commended for its dedicated service and that the board's report be accepted.

Action: *Adopted* (16).

To Give Youth Representatives Bylaw Status

RESOLUTION 8-10

Report 8-01 (CW, pp. 368—374)

WHEREAS, Youth represents a unique and vital sub-culture both in society and in the church; and

WHEREAS, There is a resurgence of interest on the part of youth to take up its responsibilities toward the challenges facing the church in the world today; and

WHEREAS, A significant step has been taken toward recognizing the concerns of youth by inviting Districts to send official youth representatives to this convention; and

WHEREAS, This practice should be continued in subsequent conventions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the following *Handbook* addition be made:

1.61 Other Advisory Representatives

e. Each District may be represented by two youths to be selected as a District may specify.

Action: *Adopted* (15).

To State Youth Ministry Affirmations and Concerns

RESOLUTION 8-11

Report 8-01 (CW, pp. 368—374)

Having sensed the strong, Spirit-moved direction of the report of the Board for Young People's Work, especially Part IV, "Present and Future Challenges," and in addition having listened to the personal testimony of many youth and concerned adults in the matter of the church's ministry with young people, we present the following concerns:

1. We believe and affirm that youth are positively interested in their roles as the church in the world and all which that implies. They are not seeking an "out" from the institutional church but rather an honest and meaningful role in the church which their Baptism has already given them;

And therefore ask: Can the church capitalize on that interest in this generation, and through Word and sacrament can the church remain open to the possible renewing changes which such commitment may entail?

2. We believe and affirm that God's people need to seek their role as one of action and as servants of the world, speaking the Gospel of Jesus Christ both individually and corporately and applying it to the current issues of life;

And therefore ask: How can the church, using the energies of young people, immerse itself in the issues of our time and retain both its distinctive character and peculiar mission?

3. We believe and affirm that God's people must become aware of their oneness as the family of believers of all ages. The families of God must see themselves as the family of God.

And therefore ask: How can the church become aware of its oneness and express its unity to the world?

4. We believe and affirm that the church must improve its vision and practice of Christian education, with special concern for communication as the key word in the ministry between and education of adults and young people;

And therefore ask: How can education serve to overcome the generation gap, which is primarily a communication gap between youth and adults?

5. We believe and affirm that the church needs to see that it is free to celebrate and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a variety of ways. It is free to risk, to fail, to forgive, and to rejoice as it ministers;

And therefore ask: Is the church free to change and to take these risks with courage?

6. We believe and affirm that the gathered church must see that it is a means and not an end in itself. The church, whether gathered or scattered in worship or service, must give more than its best. It must, as did its Lord, give itself;

And therefore ask: How can the church give itself as a servant in this world wearing the garb of servanthood for this world?

7. We believe and affirm that the church needs to see civic and community projects as cooperative efforts rather than competitors. Youth want and need more involvement in the church and community. Such involvement must be with adults;

And therefore ask: How can the church contribute distinctly to community life in all of its aspects and express its unity as the body of Christ through joint efforts of adults and youth?

8. We believe and affirm that our Board for Young People's Work will give counsel and guidance to protect our youth against manipulation by politically sophisticated individuals, so that the witness of our young people as Christians and citizens may be the truth founded upon accurate information.

WHEREAS, The above statements of affirmations are at the heart of our ministry in all the complexities of our changing age; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod endorse the above affirmations and direct the Board for Young People's Work in its Gospel outreach of proclamation and service to give top priority to their effective implementation on all levels of youth ministry.

Action: Adopted as amended (16).

(Statement 8 was added by amendment. By common consent the last sentence of Point 3, para. 1, was dropped: "The ecumenical movement is an attempt to affirm this oneness of the body of Christ." A motion to strike Point 3 failed to carry, as well as a motion to recommit the entire resolution. The terminology of "aware of its oneness" was accepted during the discussion of Point 3.)

(In the closing moments of the convention it was decided that this resolution should receive broad distribution among the young people of the Synod.)

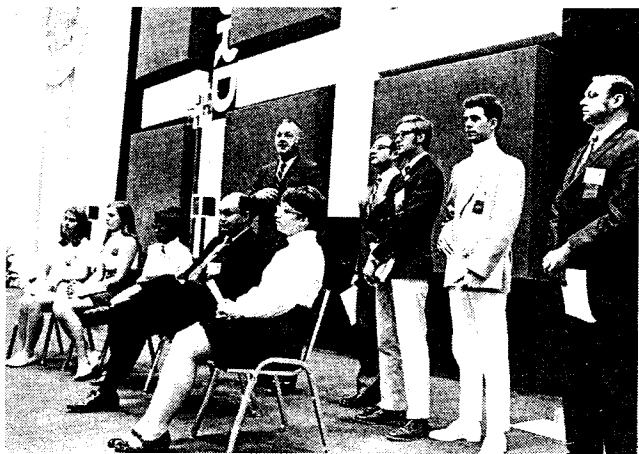
To Carry Out Intent of Resolution 8-01

RESOLUTION 8-12

Overture 8-08U (URO, p. 72)

WHEREAS, The Synod has passed Resolution 8-01 giving membership on the Board of Youth Ministry to five young people; and

WHEREAS, Election of the five young people this late



Some of our refreshing youth reps

in the convention presents considerable difficulties for the Committee on Nominations; therefore be it

Resolved, That the intent of Resolution 8-01 be carried out during the next biennium by the appointment of five young people as advisory members of the Board of Youth Ministry by the Council of Administrators upon recommendation of the President of the Synod; and be it also

Resolved, That at the 1971 convention of the Synod, nominations for the board shall fulfill the requirements of 7.71 a and b.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Revise Bylaws for Board of Youth Ministry

RESOLUTION 8-13

Overture 8-07 (CW, pp. 375—376)

Resolved, That the following Bylaw revisions for the Board of Youth Ministry be approved:

F. YOUTH MINISTRY

7.61 Purpose

The purpose of youth ministry is —

- a. to proclaim among youth the presence, love, and power of God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection has redeemed all people;
- b. to equip youth for faithful service to God and His world by a ministry of the Holy Spirit through Word and sacraments;
- c. to assist and train adults in building helpful Christian relationships with youth in contemporary culture;
- d. to enable youth and adults to share their unique gifts in ministry to one another within the Christian community and in ministry to the world as the witnessing people of God;
- e. to provide settings for Christian youth to demonstrate the mission of the church in word and life and for unclaimed youth to be exposed to the call of God in the Gospel.

7.65 Administrative Organizations

In support of the congregations of the Synod in the ministry among youth the following serve as administrative organizations:

- a. the youth ministry committee of the congregation;
- b. the District Board (or Committee) of Youth Ministry;
- c. the synodical Board of Youth Ministry;
- d. youth-led movements or associations, such as the Walther League.

G. BOARD OF YOUTH MINISTRY

7.71 Membership

- a. The Board of Youth Ministry, consisting of one pastor, one teacher, one representative of one of our synodical schools, two laymen, and five young people, shall be elected by the Synod.
- b. The young people shall be chosen for a 2-year term and shall represent the diverse interests and background of our church, conscious of age and ethnic groups.

7.73 Functions

The Board of Youth Ministry shall —

- a. act on behalf of the Synod to encourage and support a ministry among youth in all congregations and Districts;
- b. provide the Synod with a sound theological statement to serve as a means toward unity and coordination in the youth ministry;
- c. provide materials and training for youth and adults on parish and District levels for a variety of avenues in ministering to youth inside and outside the church;
- d. be responsible for the coordination of synodical efforts

in the youth ministry and shall work cooperatively with other synodical boards and agencies in their concern for youth work, including evangelism, stewardship, social welfare, Bible study, family life, professional church service, Christian literature, and the like;

e. provide guidance for all forms of interparish ministry among youth developed within the Synod, such as the Walther League, young-adult groups, and other youth-led movements and associations;

f. provide information and guidance regarding professional youth leadership to the Synod's Board for Higher Education and other boards, committees, and agencies in the Synod responsible for the training of professional workers with youth;

g. provide members of the Synod with information about the Christian youth ministry through all of the Synod's informational media;

h. initiate and direct research activities necessary to develop, improve, and promote the youth ministry;

i. provide leadership to and arrange training conferences for District Boards (or Committees) of Youth Ministry and assist them in developing forms of ministry for youth and youth leaders suitable to emerging needs and opportunities;

j. provide guidance to the members of the Synod sponsoring junior organizations, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Camp Fire Girls, and similar groups, and shall represent the Synod in maintaining relationship with the national leadership of such organizations and related national agencies;

k. be authorized to secure the services of an Executive Secretary of Youth Ministry and of such other assistants as are needed and approved by the synodical Board of Directors.

H. DISTRICT BOARD (OR COMMITTEE) OF YOUTH MINISTRY

7.81 Election or Appointment

Each District shall elect or in some other way establish a Board (or Committee) of Youth Ministry on an administrative level with other District boards (or committees) and in harmony with synodical administrative structure.

7.83 Functions

The District board (or committee) shall cooperate with the synodical board in the encouragement and support of a comprehensive ministry among youth in all congregations of the Synod and in administering interparish activities of the youth ministry within the District.

I. CONGREGATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

7.91 Purpose and Duties

The congregation shall be encouraged to elect a youth committee annually. This committee shall have as its purpose the maintenance of close and sympathetic relations between the adults and young people of the congregation and the furtherance of the best interests of youth ministry in the congregation. It shall counsel and assist youth groups. It shall report to the congregation at its regular meetings and shall be responsible for promoting interest in and support of youth ministry within the congregation.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

9. SOCIAL ACTION AND WELFARE

To Commend Dr. Werner Kuntz

RESOLUTION 9-01

Overture: Special

WHEREAS, A special gift of God has been given to our church in the person of Dr. Werner Kuntz, under whose unique perception, understanding, and skill in the ministry of relief for the burdened a real ministry of leadership and service has been rendered as director of the program since its beginning in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Regulations call for his retirement from this position at the close of this current year; and

WHEREAS, The Board of World Relief is already in the process of calling a successor for this important post of leadership and service; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank God for His gift in the person of Dr. Werner Kuntz and that we thank Doctor Kuntz for his dedicated and effective service to the Lord and to our church; and be it further

Resolved, That we pray God's continued blessing according to His gracious will upon Pastor Kuntz in his new state of retirement; and be it further

Resolved, That we heartily concur with the board's intention to seek the continuing expert service of Doctor Kuntz on a consultative basis; and be it finally

Resolved, That we implore the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit in the selection of the new director who will be called to this important assignment.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Accept Report of Board of World Relief

RESOLUTION 9-02

Report 9-04 (CW, pp. 387—389)

WHEREAS, The Board of World Relief was able to give a small measure of relief to the existing needs of distress in many parts of the world through Lutheran World Relief, Inc., and by independent allocation of funds; and

WHEREAS, The need for continued relief appears to be even more critical in the immediate years to come; and

WHEREAS, This need must be a matter of great concern to the church in carrying out the ministry of Christ for the total man; therefore be it

Resolved, That we give thanks to God for the compassion that has been shown by our several congregations in carrying out this ministry of love under the direction of the Board of World Relief; and be it further

Resolved, That in demonstration of the many bountiful blessings which the Lord has showered upon us we continue to support the World Relief program with more generous offerings as the needs of increased relief may arise in all parts of the world.

Action: *Adopted* (6).

To Express Concern for Moral Standards

RESOLUTION 9-03

Overtures 9-09, 9-10 (CW, p. 392)

WHEREAS, Pornography, nudism, and sexual perversions are increasing at an alarming rate and corrupting especially the minds of young people; and

WHEREAS, The exploitation of violence and sex in print, films, and stage productions is causing a sharp decline in moral standards; therefore be it

Resolved, That the church make renewed efforts to improve the present moral climate by —

1) encouraging its families to discriminate in their support of good publications, films, stage plays, television programs, etc.;

2) encouraging its members in their witness to the communications industry and society at large in this respect; and

3) encouraging talented Christians to prepare themselves as communicators and to promote high moral standards in the industry; and be it also

Resolved, That we ask the President of the Synod to inform the President of the United States, the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the justices of the Supreme Court, and the Governors of all states (and the provincial governments of Canada through Lutheran Church—Canada) of our concern for positive legislation and judicial action to protect and strengthen the moral standards of the nation, and that we encourage the members of the Synod to write on this matter to their representatives.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (13).

(Amendments in Session 10: Insertion of reference to Canada and addition of final clause.)

To Avoid Racism, with Special Reference to Membership Transfers

RESOLUTION 9-04

Overture 9-11 (CW, pp. 392—393)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod on the basis of God's Word condemns all manner of racism as immoral and anti-Scriptural; therefore be it

Resolved, That we at this time reassert our Scriptural position on the priesthood of all believers regardless of race; and be it further

Resolved, That our congregations and individual Christians practice brotherly love and avoid all racism; and be it finally

Resolved, That all un-Scriptural practices in the church, including such matters as racism in transfers, be dealt with in accordance with Christ's will as expressed in Matthew 18.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (6).

(Before amendment the second resolved had read: "avoid everything that can be interpreted as racism.")

A motion to recommit in order to clarify procedures for dealing with congregations on the basis of Matt. 18 failed to carry.)

To Alert Church to Dangers of Communism

RESOLUTION 9-05

Overtures 9-22, 9-23, 9-24 (CW, pp. 398—399)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has consistently recognized the dangers and evils of Communism (1962 *Proceedings*, Res. 13-17, p. 164; Res. 8-15, p. 143) and through its periodicals and other publications has not lost sight of these evils; therefore be it

Resolved, That our church continue to be alert to these dangers and study objectively and conscientiously the issues that are involved.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Refer to Augsburg Confession on Dissent and Civil Disobedience

RESOLUTION 9-06

Overture 9-20 (CW, p. 397)

WHEREAS, Article XVI of the Augsburg Confession adequately covers the concern stated in this overture; therefore be it

Resolved, That no further action be taken on this matter.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Endorse "Project Equality"

RESOLUTION 9-07

Overture 9-35U (URO, pp. 74-75)

WHEREAS, Past synodical conventions have sounded a call for us to repent of our past sins of racial discrimination and encouraged us to engage in immediate and affirmative action to right the wrongs of the past; and

WHEREAS, In 1967 at New York the Synod directed the Board of Social Ministry and District Boards of Social Ministry to evaluate existing projects and agencies in the field of fair employment that have programs of education and action; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Social Ministry in fulfillment of this overture did in August 1968 endorse "Project Equality," notify the Districts of such endorsement, and indicate that supportive action be taken on the District level; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the Board of Social Ministry for its action; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod encourage the Board of Social Ministry to continue its earnest efforts to evaluate and recommend those agencies and projects that will be helpful to our congregations to eliminate discrimination in employment and business, rededicate themselves in the struggle for racial equality and justice, and work and act positively in fulfilling their Christian witness with love for their neighbors.

Action: Adopted (10).

To Affirm Legitimacy of Black Power and Black Separatism

RESOLUTION 9-08

Overture 9-12 (CW, p. 393)

WHEREAS, Black and white Christians together constitute one body in Christ and share the dignity of sonship and forgiveness, which no accusation of devils or men can take from them, and thus live in a bond of unity which works continually to break down all divisions; and

WHEREAS, God in His mercy knows also the need and hunger of every man for that secular dignity, honor, and capacity for self-respect which Luther lists as belonging to "daily bread"; and

WHEREAS, Many of our black brethren recognize that the black element in American society needs to overcome economic, social, and educational disadvantages, not only for the sake of securing more adequate food and housing but as a means of attaining a quality of dignity and self-respect which will enable them to face the challenges of life with the confidence of free men; and

WHEREAS, Our black brethren recognize also that secular dignity, unlike the dignity that is ours in the Gospel of Christ, cannot be conferred as a gift or by mere legal action but must finally be achieved by the black community for itself, and in that goal and endeavor see the legitimacy of the concept of black power; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage and bless its black members, so minded, to return freely to that world in which they have so unique an opportunity of service and to use all wisdom and energy in love to help the black man in America, regardless of creed, to achieve the fulfillment of his hunger for dignity, identity, and self-respect, which is so vital to his life; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod, white and black members together, as well as all others, affirm that such a mission of its black members to their own communities in no way divides the church or separates them from one another but only recognizes and uses the variety of the gifts with which Christ has blessed the whole body in its many members; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod ask its black members to continue to share their special gift and insight for the benefit of the whole church, to bring to the church any specific special need toward which the church may make a contribution without upsetting the principle of black power as they define it, and to accept also every opportunity God gives them in their work in the world, to offer to black men also the unique dignity of eternal sonship which comes to them alone by the mercy of God in Christ, and which gives them power to overcome the world.

Action: Recommended (10) and replaced by Res. 9-22.

To Adopt a Statement on Principles of Social Action, with Special Reference to Corporate Positions

RESOLUTION 9-09

Overtures 9-13 to 9-18 (CW, pp. 393-396)

A. Preface

A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE ON SOCIAL ACTION

As a preface to all its resolutions, and stimulated in particular by the concerns expressed in Overtures 9-

13 to 9-18, Committee 9 asks the Synod to approve the following statement of principle.

When the church becomes involved in social ministry and action, it needs to understand not only the principle of love but also "the distinction between Christ's kingdom and a political kingdom" as defined in the Lutheran Confessions, especially AC XVI, Apol. XVI, XV 43, LC I 274-275, FC XII 17-22. For example, Apol. XVI 2-3 states:

The writings of our theologians have profitably illumined this whole question of the distinction between Christ's kingdom and a political kingdom. Christ's kingdom is spiritual; it is the knowledge of God in the heart, the fear of God and faith, the beginning of eternal righteousness and eternal life. At the same time it lets us make outward use of the legitimate political ordinances of the nation in which we live, just as it lets us make use of medicine or architecture, food or drink or air. The Gospel does not introduce any new laws about the civil estate, but commands us to obey the existing laws, whether they were formulated by heathen or by others, and in this obedience to practice love.

This distinction affirms everything the Confessions say about Christ and faith, namely that God in the Gospel has declared us sinners to be His sons and heirs and that we are justified by nothing more than the faith that clings to this Word of promise. We believe in Jesus Christ our Lord and come to Him, not by our own reason or strength but by the Gospel in which the Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps us in the one faith as one church. In this kingdom we possess the freedom that comes by knowing the truth, the peace which the world cannot give, and the hope and life which overcomes even death. Because God our Father has not only created and redeemed us but also sustains, protects, and directs us until the day He completes our life in glory, we are free to trust and obey Him and thus to extend His love to every neighbor without fear of loss or desire for profit. The mark of this kingdom is the Word of God, the bread of life on which Christians feed in worship and sacrament. The church must never be ashamed of that Gospel or permit the scorn of the world to rob it of its luster. For it is our life and the ground of our true and eternal dignity, worth, and power. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but that Word and that Kingdom shall not pass away.

When the Confessions now speak of the political (secular) kingdom, they affirm that even the world of fallen humanity is God's. God does not wish to destroy that world, even though its ultimate destiny is wrath. On the contrary, God manifests to that world, even in its enmity against Him, a remarkable mercy, for He "makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and the unjust." It is His kingdom. The power of God is manifest in every force that works in this world, including not only forces of nature but also government and social pressures which serve to restrain the lusts of men and thus make peace and civilization possible. In the secular kingdom God makes men serve His purposes even though they do not know Him. The very wisdom by which men pursue their desires and avoid what they fear becomes a God-ordained force to curb anarchy, to enforce a degree of justice,

and sometimes even to inflict God's judgments. Yet the ultimate hope of man does not lie in this kingdom. For in their common desire to achieve what they judge to be good for them and to avoid whatever seems evil, men violate one another. God decrees in wrath that the good they pursue shall leave them hungry even when they attain it, and that the evil they flee shall finally catch up with them. He exposes the futility of the fallen world and signals its final destruction whenever men find themselves enmeshed in conflict, crime, frustration, injustice, guilt, famine, disaster, war, and death.

According to his sinful nature the Christian knows only the earthly kingdom, is fully sympathetic to it, and sets all his hopes upon it. As a saint, however, he is both delivered from that kingdom and yet called right back into it. He is not to seek a higher form of holiness by withdrawing from it. It is the arena in which he is to love and serve his neighbor, even his enemy. In it he is to proclaim God's judgment against every arrogance and independence of man and to offer the world a new dignity, life, hope, and community in Christ. But he is also to participate in its government and economics and in every aspect of secular society, employing all the resources of judgment and common sense, in order that even this fallen world may experience, as a gift of divine mercy, the greatest possible measure of secular freedom, dignity, justice, peace, and joy.

When the Synod concerns itself with the Word of God and the call to proclaim it, it is dealing with what the Confessions call "the kingdom of Christ." When the Synod directs its attention to questions of social ministry and social action, it is responding not only to the call to love but to the call to Christians to participate fully in the "secular" or "political kingdom." These two types of response cannot really be separated, for the Christian remains one person, and his ministry must be to the whole man and even to the whole society of men, as the Mission Affirmations state. Nevertheless, if our Synod is to avoid the tragic confusion into which many churches have fallen, it must also be aware of and maintain a fundamental distinction. Words such as freedom, peace, joy, dignity, life, justice, hope, and love have applicability and meaning in both kingdoms and are indeed gifts of God in both. But the meanings are never equivalent. The history of Jesus Christ crucified dramatizes the difference. For when Jesus died, everything this world treasures as freedom, peace, joy, dignity, life, justice, hope, and love was taken away from Him. And yet as the Son of His heavenly Father, trusting and obeying even to the death, all of these were His, and all the forces of devils, death, and hell could not take them from Him. His resurrection reveals which kingdom is eternally true and triumphant.

B. The Resolution

WHEREAS, The overtures here listed raise the question as to whether it is proper for the Synod in convention to adopt resolutions which imply taking a corpor-

ate position on secular issues and call for corporate action; and

WHEREAS, These overtures also ask the Synod to withdraw certain resolutions adopted at its New York convention in 1967, specifically 9-08, "To Support Open Housing," 9-10, "To Provide Guidelines for Open Housing," 9-12, "To Encourage Fairness in Business and Employment," 9-13, "To Commend and Support Those Engaged in Programs Related to Removal of Poverty," 9-15, "To Act in Behalf of Those Who Are Poor," and 2-29, "To Receive Document on 'Civil Obedience and Disobedience' as Furnishing Proper Instruction and Counsel"; and

WHEREAS, The committee has reviewed these New York resolutions in the light of its prefatory statement on the distinction between the two kingdoms and appreciates the great care with which these resolutions were prepared, without any confusion of that distinction; and

WHEREAS, The Synod's increasing awareness of the call to its people to become involved in the problems of society, and its official encouragement of such involvement also through adoption of specific action programs, is of recent origin and has understandably left certain questions unanswered; therefore be it

Resolved,

1. That the Synod invite its members to study further the doctrine of the two kingdoms as well as the ethical principles affirmed in the Large Catechism on the Ten Commandments and to consider whether the preface to these resolutions adequately answers the concerns expressed in these overtures, and invite them to submit any further questions to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations;

2. That the Synod reaffirm the resolutions of the New York convention listed above, as being in accord with both Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions;

3. That the Synod remain alert to the hazard, to which the report of the Commission on Social Action (9-01, *Convention Workbook*, p. 378) also points in its paragraph on "Moot Issues of Our Day," of issuing superficial moral judgments or urging particular forms of action in complex secular matters for which there is no clear Word of God.

Action: Adopted (5).

To Commend Commission on Ministerial Health

RESOLUTION 9-10

Report 9-05 (CW, pp. 389—390)

WHEREAS, The Synod in its 1967 convention authorized the appointment of a Commission on Ministerial Health; and

WHEREAS, The commission has clearly delineated in its objectives a deep concern for the health and well-being of the men who serve God's church as pastors and ministers; and

WHEREAS, Many of the Districts have already appointed a District Commission on Ministerial Health, which will not only share its insights and experiences with the synodical commission but may also count on counsel and help from the same commission; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank the Commission on Ministerial Health for its competent initiation of a meaningful service to the church; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage every District to appoint a similar competent commission according to the suggested guidelines; and be it finally

Resolved, That in these days of considerable stress and tension we ask God to favor with sound health in mind and body those men whom He has called to be His ambassadors, that the Gospel of redemption may be proclaimed without interruption.

Action: Adopted (6).

To Intensify Efforts to Alleviate World Hunger

RESOLUTION 9-11

Overtures 9-07 (CW, pp. 390—392); 9-30U (URO, p. 73)

WHEREAS, Hunger, a present-day world crisis, is the cause of hatred, conflict, and premature death among mankind; and

WHEREAS, Already seven persons die of starvation every minute, and a United Nations report projects a world population of 7,000,000,000 people, or double the present number, by the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, This points to a future of unprecedented mass starvation among mankind unless remedial and preventive action is taken by those who love God-given life; and

WHEREAS, Christians, set free from self-centeredness by the crucified and living Christ, have the desire to meet their Lord's directive to "feed the hungry"; and

WHEREAS, The time for Christians to respond to this directive is while they and their fellowmen are permitted to be alive in this present world; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a corporate body of redeemed Christians, direct its Board of Directors in its first regular meeting following this convention to appoint a committee charged with the task of immediately implementing this resolution to alleviate world hunger; and be it further

Resolved, That said body consult and cooperate with other religious and secular organizations in determining the most effective ways and means to meet the need of hungry humanity; and be it further

Resolved, That, in view of the urgency of the problem of world hunger and in order to give this serious matter high fiscal priority, the Board of Directors of our Synod be instructed to realign its budget priorities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of our Synod be instructed to reinstate the deleted allocation to cover the basic administrative costs of our Board of World Relief into the synodical budget; and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be directed to divert \$100,000 to the Board of World Relief, to be used as judiciously as possible to feed at least a few of the hungry of this world now; and be it further

Resolved, That all congregations of our Synod and all their members be challenged to change the past and present practice of "token giving" to "sacrificial giving" for this critical need; and be it further

Resolved, That our congregations be requested to appeal to their youth to prepare themselves for service in careers such as food research, agricultural development, and food distribution, to the end of placing their knowledge and ability at the disposal of people that need and would welcome such qualified persons to help them triumph over poverty, hunger, and starvation; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention commend the current interest of our young people in their attempt to alleviate the problem of world hunger and encourage and urge them to continue this interest until this problem is solved; and be it further

Resolved, That we as a church body and as Christian citizens strive to arouse the national conscience on world hunger by urging our governmental officials to reassess our national values and priorities in order to deal more effectively with this serious and heartless problem of world hunger; and be it further

Resolved, That our congregations be directed to remind their members of the great value of periodically writing "personal" letters to their representatives in Congress of their concern for the genuine needs of others in our own country and in the world; and be it finally

Resolved, That, since the problem of world hunger is so monumental and complex and cannot be solved overnight, the President of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be, and hereby is, empowered to appoint a commission to gather and analyze the pertinent data of experts in this or related fields of world hunger and translate this information into a set of responses for the future guidance of our church, her agencies and members in helping them in their God-pleasing attempt to wipe out hunger, with the help of Almighty God, from the face of the earth.

Action: Adopted as amended (15).

(The committee accepted in Session 13 a change in the first resolved which had read: "That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, a corporate body of redeemed Christians, through an appropriate board or committee immediately intensify its present program to alleviate world hunger," and also a change in the third resolved, which had read: "... to study the possibility of the realignment of its budget priorities.")

The fifth resolved was inserted by amendment in Session 13.

Another amendment was made, seconded, and discussed to allocate at least 40% of projected expenditures for the next

2 years for self-help ministries. In Session 15 the assembly gave the mover formal permission to withdraw the proposed amendment. The resolution was then adopted in the form given above.)

To Commend Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded

RESOLUTION 9-12

Report 9-03 (CW, pp. 385—387)

WHEREAS, The Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded, although only in its sixth year and having had an executive secretary for only 2 years, has nevertheless rendered significant service to the mentally retarded by way of materials, instruction programs, institutes, curricula, etc.; therefore be it

Resolved, That the commission be commended for such service, leadership, and initiative; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod encourage the commission to continue to alert and arouse the members of the Synod to the needs of the mentally retarded and to encourage active involvement in a ministry to the same; and be it finally

Resolved, That we as a church do all in our power to help these our brothers and sisters in every way possible, but above all to bring them into the fellowship of God's love and saving grace.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Commend Commission on Social Action

RESOLUTION 9-13

Report 9-01 (CW, pp. 377—379)

WHEREAS, The report of the Commission on Social Action informs the Synod that a significant number of study documents and position papers have been prepared since the commission's organization in 1962; and

WHEREAS, An increasing number of social problems call for further studies and for continued exploration in the light of God's Word of the theology of Christian social action; and

WHEREAS, The studies have not always been given the attention they deserve; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend the commission for the publication of the guidelines and studies; and be it also

Resolved, That congregations study the documents carefully and respond to them with responsible action according to the insight, ability, and opportunity which God gives.

Action: Adopted (6).

To Commend Board of Social Ministry

RESOLUTION 9-14

Report 9-02 (CW, pp. 379—385)

WHEREAS, The convention committee has reviewed the report of the Board of Social Ministry and found it to be a significant document on the relation of the Holy Scriptures to the social ministry of the church; and

WHEREAS, The committee finds the "Ten Guiding Principles" enunciated in the document (CW, pp. 383 to 385) deserving of further study and consideration; therefore be it

Resolved, That congregations of the Synod study the document carefully; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod commend the staff and the committee for the thoughtful, Biblically based approach it has taken on social issues and ask the staff to give further and continuing thought to the complex social welfare issues that face our world.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Create Housing Staff Position

RESOLUTION 9-15

Overture 9-08 (CW, p. 392)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod already in New York in 1967 resolved to undertake a program of education and action with regard to housing for people who were restricted for racial or other reasons; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Social Ministry accepted this responsibility for administration and implementation; and

WHEREAS, The opportunities for service in this area represent an ever-growing challenge; and

WHEREAS, The "Keys for Christ" venture evoked special interest within our Synod in this cause as another way of witnessing to our faith; and

WHEREAS, The continued administration and responsibility for this venture impose undue burdens on the Board of Social Ministry and staff as now constituted; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Eugene W. Linse, who has served with theological and sociological competence on a temporary basis; and be it further

Resolved, That in the interest of good stewardship and good administrative procedure a staff position be filled by a competent person who under the direction of the executive secretary of the Board of Social Ministry shall devote himself primarily to the special ministry and the opportunities facing the church in the areas of housing; and be it finally

Resolved, That insofar as possible and practical the administration and operation of this program and service be made self-supporting.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Train and Utilize Institutional Chaplains

RESOLUTION 9-16

Overture 9-27 (CW, p. 399)

WHEREAS, Clinically trained institutional chaplains have many and special opportunities to bring the Gospel of our Lord to troubled people; and

WHEREAS, Our church has not kept pace in meeting

the increased need for clinically trained chaplains; therefore be it

Resolved, That each District of our church through its duly appointed Board of Social Ministry and/or Board of Missions take immediate action to —

1) encourage capable pastors to consider this specialized ministry, so that the corps of clinically trained chaplains can be increased by a sizable number during the next biennium;

2) provide funds for such clinical pastoral training for qualified persons;

3) seek out additional opportunities for placement of such chaplains in public institutions;

4) use our institutional chaplains to conduct and offer various training opportunities for pastors and lay people to equip them to function effectively as volunteers; and

5) to make further use of our trained chaplains as resource people for District ministerial health committees.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Train 5,000 Volunteers for Institutional Chaplaincy Program

RESOLUTION 9-17

Overture 9-26 (CW, p. 399)

WHEREAS, It is impossible to provide full-time chaplains for all major institutions; and

WHEREAS, Parish pastors on a part-time basis, as well as lay people, can provide a ministry of service in the 25,000 nursing homes, as well as other hospitals and institutions; and

WHEREAS, These institutions would welcome the well-trained lay or clergy volunteer; therefore be it

Resolved, That in consultation with our District Boards of Social Ministry and under the supervision of our full-time chaplains the Synod engage in a "Program of Compassion" to train 5,000 of our members for volunteer service in the institutions, hospitals, and nursing homes of our country; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Social Ministry provide guidelines, principles, and other helps for such volunteer services and report at the 1971 convention on the results of this resolution.

Action: Adopted (16).

To Adopt Polity Statement re Accreditation of Welfare Agencies

RESOLUTION 9-18

Overtures 9-28, 9-29 (CW, p. 400)

WHEREAS, The Board of Social Ministry of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has been given the responsibility to serve as the administrative agency of the Synod for social ministry interest of and in the Synod; and

WHEREAS, A "Polity Statement" was developed in consultation with representatives of the various health and welfare agencies that have developed in our Synod; and

WHEREAS, This Polity Statement, which describes the character of programs, administration, adequate financial planning, and appropriate relationship with the District and the Synod, was approved by the synodical Board of Directors in May 1967; and

WHEREAS, The Lord of the church has blessed the efforts of His people to establish health and welfare agencies in the Synod through associations of individual Christians, associations of congregations, and in recent years through District action; and

WHEREAS, The Synod has encouraged individual Christian initiative and action by Lutheran Christians in giving life to the maxim that "we are our brother's keeper"; and

WHEREAS, We should be more concerned with standards and performance than with the structure of an organization; and

WHEREAS, The activities of all of the associations of organized social ministry should be coordinated with other Christians and with the District and synodical Boards of Social Ministry; therefore be it

Resolved, That our congregations, Districts, and the Synod demonstrate by increasing involvement, adequate support, and continuing interest that our agencies are truly channels of the church by which the love of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and demonstrated; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Social Ministry be instructed to allow a waiver of specific conditions of accreditation relating to structure, with those agencies now in existence or hereafter created that do not in the agencies' unilateral discretion and determination find it feasible to meet this requirement; and be it finally

Resolved, That any existing welfare agencies or any that are hereafter planned must seek the counsel and advice of the District and synodical Boards of Social Ministry in which they are resident, to seek compliance with the Polity Statement.

Action: The convention decided to consider and then adopted a substitute motion that Resolution 9-18 be referred for study and action to the Board of Directors in consultation with the Board of Social Ministry and the agencies involved (16).

To Develop Common Strategy for National Crisis

RESOLUTION 9-19

Overtures 9-21 (CW, pp. 397-398); 4-28 (CW, p. 220)

WHEREAS, We are living in difficult days which have been marked by widespread rebellion, resistance to traditional practices, social revolution and general unrest, and turmoil in which the dominant factor is change and which has been defined as a "national crisis"; and

WHEREAS, This "national crisis" includes racial prob-

lems, urban or rural difficulties, conditions of poverty or plenty, problems of mental health, alcoholism, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Many of our Lutheran churches have been endeavoring to respond to the "national crisis" with insufficient coordination or ineffective planning; and

WHEREAS, Long-term strategies must be devised on national, regional, District, state, and local levels with each pastor involved in the planning and each plan a part of the total strategy; and

WHEREAS, We would be in a better position to serve each other by becoming actors rather than reactors to a "national crisis"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Social Ministry in conjunction with the other boards and commissions of our Synod that are involved (Missions, Stewardship, Parish Education) and in consultation with the appropriate boards of the other Lutheran bodies in the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A. be charged to create a common strategy so that a meaningful response might be made over against the national crisis; and be it further

Resolved, That all service programs developed to meet the national crisis be conducted wherever possible by existing social-ministry and social-action agencies and be assisted by the Synod in cooperation with the Districts, associations of congregations, and associations of individual Christians; and be it further

Resolved, That social-witness efforts and ministry be conducted at personal, congregational, intercongregational, county, state, District, and national levels, utilizing the competence and expertise of our social-ministry agencies for the training and organization of workers and personnel; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board of Directors together with the service boards of our church develop the process whereby funds may be made available to the Board of Social Ministry to respond to the approved social-ministry and social-action agencies of our church as they develop programs to meet the national crisis.

Action: Referred to the Board of Social Ministry for study and action (16).

To Give Attention to Plight of Migrant Farm Workers

RESOLUTION 9-20

Overtures 9-25 (CW, p. 399); 9-33U, 9-34U (URO, pp. 73-74)

WHEREAS, The question of the grape strike and boycott belongs to the secular kingdom, in which God exercises His rule through political, social, and economic forces often in opposition; and

WHEREAS, Strategies for action in the secular kingdom derive not from the Word of God but from the fallible wisdom of man, based on the limited perception individuals may have of a given problem; and

WHEREAS, In a situation as complex as that of migrant workers it is not necessarily helpful to act on the

strength of moral judgments and indictments which classify men into simple categories of victim and villain but may be a greater service of love to apply the most practical and impartial wisdom of which men are capable; and

WHEREAS, The church cannot close its eyes to any human misery without pleading for God's mercy and seeking some way to be of service in securing for an economically, socially, and educationally deprived group a greater dignity, security, and hope in this world; therefore be it

Resolved,

1. That the Synod withhold any judgment with respect to the merits of the grape strike and boycott as a strategy, or with respect to the vineyard owners, or with respect to any individuals or groups among us who, deeply moved by the cause, have taken a course of action which they hope and pray will contribute eventually toward improving the lot of the migrant workers; and

2. That the Synod ask any members who may be in a strategic position in any area of government or economics to offer concrete help in effecting a solution, to consider whether God may not be calling them to make this problem an area of special study and attention; and

3. That congregations serving areas where part-time, full-time, and migrant workers are seasonally employed seek ways of serving the total needs of these persons, who otherwise are so easily overlooked and forgotten, and that they be invited to call for the resources of the social ministry department of the Districts as well as those synodical boards and commissions that may help toward a solution; and

4. That our congregations, recognizing their limited capacity to be of direct service, nevertheless bring this need explicitly before God in fervent prayer, in confidence that such prayers will be heard and will have God's blessing.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

To Decline to Declare Moratorium on Capital Expenditures

RESOLUTION 9-21

Overture 9-07, III, D (CW, p. 391)

WHEREAS, The proposal to declare a 2-year moratorium on all capital expenditures in order that the church may give a higher priority to the urgent needs of the hungry has the support of many of our youth, not only for its practical value but also as a symbol of the church's recognition that people are more important than property; and

WHEREAS, There are many difficulties with this proposal, for example:

1. It would be meaningless and beyond the Synod's authority to issue a blanket judgment concerning priorities; for such decisions belong properly to the people directly involved in making particular decisions.

2. The proposition that "people are more important

than property" must be held in tension with another proposition: that property is a gift of God to people, to be received with thanksgiving and used to His glory. For property, like life, is protected by God's commandment, and the loss of property has in it already a sign of death. The problem of fallen man is not that he possesses and uses property or even that he defends it but rather that man covets property, grasps it at the expense of and without regard to his neighbor, clings to it when God calls him to let it go, imagines it is his by right rather than by grace, and thus turns it into an idol.

3. The declaration of a moratorium would not necessarily add an equivalent of wealth to the cause of feeding the hungry, unless perhaps it were accompanied by a definite and concrete plan which could offer the hope of contributing to a long-term solution of the hunger problem and not merely to the momentary relief of relatively few people.

4. Christian love is called to respond to many needs, including the central task of proclaiming the Gospel of the Bread of Life. Its expression cannot be regimented, for even the call to feed the poor, for all its appeal of love, can fall under the criticism of a text like Matthew 26: 6-13.

5. The call to respond now to a need that is obviously immediate and urgent must always be set over against another call and responsibility: to apply what wisdom we have to the longer-range impact of our present decisions and actions; and

WHEREAS, It is prejudicial to assume that building programs of congregations or of the Synod are designed as instruments of comfort and self-congratulation in the pride of riches. For institutional structures, including buildings, though they belong to the secular kingdom, are a necessary form within which congregations and synods may function on this earth, to be sanctified by the Word of God, received with thanksgiving, and used as instruments of God's work with the best practical insight of which God's people are capable; and

WHEREAS, For the Committee on Social Welfare and Action to offer a resolution proposing such a moratorium for the sake of dramatic effect, in the knowledge that it would have to be declined, would not only be an irresponsible waste of the convention's time but would also leave the Synod open to the accusation that it is only institutionally oriented and values property over people; therefore be it

Resolved,

1. That the proposal of a moratorium on new building be respectfully declined;

2. That those who have argued for a moratorium with great determination be asked to study this resolution as well as "A Statement of Principle on Social Action" (TB, pp. 163-164), adopted by the convention on Monday, July 14, for a clearer understanding of the role of the church in relation to society;

3. That the Synod and its congregations nevertheless take the problem of world hunger with great seriousness as they plan their total programs, and also evaluate

every capital expenditure in the light of the total need God sets before them;

4. That the Synod and its congregations not ignore the charge of "institutionalism" which many of our youth lay against us, but recognize the constant temptation, and the sin of which we in our natural blindness are no doubt far more guilty than we know, to equate the institutional structure of the church with the church itself, for this constitutes the subtle idolatry of making an instrument an end in itself and a ground of false pride and false security; that we lay this sin before the cross of Christ, find forgiveness in Him alone, and plead with Him in the Spirit to deliver and preserve us from its curse and power.

Action: *Adopted as given above (15).*

(The committee agreed to substitute "held in tension with" for "balanced by" in Point 2 of the second whereas. The committee also stated that the "Note" attached to the resolution should not be included in the permanent record. An amendment to strike Point 2 of the second whereas failed.)

To Affirm Legitimacy of Black Power

RESOLUTION 9-22 (Recommitted 9-08)

Overture 9-12 (CW, p. 393)

WHEREAS, Black and white Christians together constitute one body in Christ and share the dignity of sonship and forgiveness, which no accusation of devils or men can take from them, and thus live in a bond of unity which works continually to break down all divisions; and

WHEREAS, God in His mercy knows also the need and hunger of every man for that secular dignity, honor, and capacity for self-respect which Luther lists as belonging to "daily bread"; and

WHEREAS, The church recognizes that the black people in America need to overcome economic, social, and educational disadvantages, not only for the sake of securing more adequate food and housing but as a means of asserting a quality of dignity and self-respect which will enable them to face the challenges of life with the confidence of free men; and

WHEREAS, Our black brothers recognize also that secular dignity, unlike the dignity that is ours in the Gospel

of Christ, cannot be conferred as a gift or by mere legal action but must finally be achieved by the black community for itself, and in that goal and endeavor see the legitimacy of this concept of black power; and

WHEREAS, Our black brothers alone, immersed as they are in the community of black men, can and ought to determine the form their ministry must take and to a considerable extent also the direction in which the church needs to move in relation to them; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod encourage and bless its black members, so minded, to return freely to that world in which they have so unique an opportunity of service and to use all wisdom and energy in love to work together with the black man in America, regardless of creed, toward fulfilling his hunger for dignity, identity, self-respect, and the respect of his fellowman, which is so vital to his life; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod, white and black members together, as well as all others, affirm that such a mission of its black members to their own communities in no way divides the church but only recognizes and uses the variety of the gifts with which Christ has blessed the whole body in its many members; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod arrange for its black members to continue to share their special gift and insight for the benefit of the whole church and ask them to bring to the church any special need toward which the church may make a contribution without upsetting the principle of black power as defined herein; and continue at every opportunity to offer to black men also that unique dignity of eternal sonship which comes to them alone by the mercy of God in Christ and gives them power to overcome the world.

Action: *Adopted as given above (16).*

(The committee accepted two suggestions: to change "the concept" to "this concept" in the fourth whereas and to change "as they define it" to "as defined herein" in the final resolved.)

10. CHURCH LITERATURE AND PUBLICATIONS; PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

To Receive Report of Commission on Church Literature

RESOLUTION 10-01

Report 10-01 (CW, pp. 401-403)

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report of the Commission on Church Literature and acknowledge the work of the commission with thanks.

Action: *Adopted (2).*

To Accept Report of Concordia Publishing House

RESOLUTION 10-02

Report 10-02 (CW, pp. 403-412)

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House continues to



serve, assist, and support the Synod as its publishing arm; and

WHEREAS, It has served effectively and well for 100 years; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod accept the report of Concordia Publishing House and acknowledge its work and services with thanks; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod express its gratitude to God for the 100 years of service it has received from Concordia Publishing House.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Receive Report of Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals

RESOLUTION 10-03

Report 10-03 (CW, pp. 412—413)

WHEREAS, The Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals has been charged with serious responsibilities and difficult tasks in a rapidly changing society; and

WHEREAS, The commission has assured the Synod in its report and has once more reassured the floor committee of its concern for achieving the objectives the Synod has assigned to it in editing the Synod's official periodicals; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report of the Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals and acknowledge with thanks the work of the commission in editing the *Lutheran Witness*, the *Lutheran Witness Reporter*, and *Der Lutheraner*; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod encourage all its members to avail themselves of the sources of information the official periodicals provide.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Receive Report of Lutheran Television Productions Board

RESOLUTION 10-04

Report 10-04 (CW, pp. 413—416)

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report of the Lutheran Television Productions Board and acknowledge the work of the board with thanks; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod express its appreciation to the Lutheran Laymen's League and its Board of Governors for the assistance and financial support it has received from the league in carrying out the program of the Lutheran Television Productions Board.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (2).

(Amendment: To send copy to LLL headquarters.)

To Change Name to Board for Lutheran Television

RESOLUTION 10-05

Overture 10-17 (CW, p. 424)

Resolved, That the Synod accept the recommendation

of the Lutheran Television Productions Board to change the board's name to Board for Lutheran Television.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Express Appreciation to Television Stations

RESOLUTION 10-06

Overture 10-19 (CW, p. 425)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Television Productions Board has called the attention of the Synod to the fact that more than 400 television stations in the United States and in foreign countries have granted sustaining public-service time for the transmission of the board's productions; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod express its appreciation to television stations carrying "This Is the Life," "Pattern for Living," and "The Fisher Family" on a public-service basis; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod commend these stations for their outstanding spirit of service in the public interest.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Present Awards for Communications

RESOLUTION 10-07

Overture 10-22 (CW, p. 426)

WHEREAS, The procedures outlined in Overture 10-22 appear to be in the best interest of the church and its programs; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod authorize appropriate awards in appreciation and recognition of outstanding communications internally and externally; and be it also

Resolved, That the Board for Public Relations be authorized to draw up suitable guidelines for recognition and presentation.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Continue Joint TV Sponsorship

RESOLUTION 10-08

Overture 10-20 (CW, pp. 425—426)

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the Synod has recommended a continuation of the program of joint sponsorship of the Synod's television ministry with the Lutheran Laymen's League; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod approve the joint sponsorship as an ongoing and continuing operation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod's Board of Directors and the Board of Governors of the Lutheran Laymen's League or their representatives meet annually for the review of the progress made in the joint sponsorship and the discussion of budgetary projections and of the

league's financial participation for the ensuing year; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod commend its television ministry to the fervent prayers, the personal interest, and the generous support of our entire church and implore the continued benediction of our Lord upon its worldwide proclamation of Christ's saving Gospel through this powerful ever-expanding medium of communication.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Amend "Handbook" Section 12.27 (Television)

RESOLUTION 10-09

Overture 10-18 (CW, pp. 424—425)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Television Productions Board has prepared a position paper outlining basic assumptions and objectives; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the Synod has resolved to receive the position statement and to approve the basic assumptions and objectives (CW, p. 414); and

WHEREAS, The present method of appointing personnel to the Lutheran Television Productions Board as set forth in the synodical *Handbook* (Section 12.27, p. 203) in section a, "Personnel," has proved workable; and

WHEREAS, The present statement in the synodical *Handbook* does not adequately reflect the present and projected responsibilities of the Board for Lutheran Television; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod substitute for the present Section 12.27 of the synodical *Handbook* the following:

12.27 Board for Lutheran Television

a. *Personnel*. The Board for Lutheran Television shall consist of seven members appointed by the Board of Directors and, as long as the Lutheran Laymen's League participates in the sponsorship of the Synod's television ministry, four additional members shall be appointed by the Board of Governors of the Lutheran Laymen's League. Two members of the board shall be pastors. In making board appointments, attention shall be given to the special concerns of the board.

b. *Purpose*

1. To confront the non-Christian, wherever he may be found, with Jesus Christ so that the Holy Spirit can call men to faith in Him who alone gives forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

2. To dispose viewers toward a favorable reception of additional approaches by the church via media and through local follow-up.

3. To edify the Christian viewer and stimulate functional Christian life.

4. To assist congregations, District media people, and educational agencies of the church by providing creative ideas, information, and programs for their use.

5. To provide research and development leadership for the television ministry of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod.

6. To provide professional and ecclesiastical contact with national and international television concerns.

c. *Function*

1. The board shall be responsible for formulating and recommending television communication policy to the Synod.

2. The board shall be responsible for effecting the cor-

relation and coordination of the synodical television communication endeavor with other boards, agencies, and auxiliaries of the Synod.

3. The board shall be responsible for preparing appropriate budgets for its work in accordance with synodical procedure and policy.

4. The board shall be responsible for making a detailed report to the Synod and to the Lutheran Laymen's League.

d. *Duties*. In carrying out its assigned responsibilities, the board shall —

1. Administer the television communication programs enabled by the financial resources available to it;

2. Supervise the execution of synodical policies and resolutions relating to television communication;

3. Produce or cause to be produced materials for domestic and international telecast and provide materials and consultative service for Districts, congregations, and educational agencies;

4. Assist in training prospective pastors and missionaries in the utilization of television for their ministries;

5. Arrange for conferences, workshops, institutes, or other consultations for the purpose of coordinating and enhancing all components of the synodical television effort;

6. Determine staffing needs, define the functions and qualifications attaching to staff positions, and engage the necessary personnel in accordance with the policies of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted as amended* (2).

(Amendments: "and to the Lutheran Laymen's League" was added to 12.27 c, 4. Also, 12.27 a had read originally: "... four members appointed by the Board of Governors ...")

To Receive Report of Board for Public Relations

RESOLUTION 10-10

Report 10-05 (CW, pp. 416—419)

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report of the Board for Public Relations and acknowledge the work of the board with thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Receive Report of "Advance" Magazine

RESOLUTION 10-11

Report 10-06 (CW, pp. 419—420)

WHEREAS, The increased circulation of *Advance* is evidence of its wide acceptance in the church; and

WHEREAS, The Coordinating Committee for Parish Services has been successful in improving its services to parishes; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod express its appreciation for the services rendered to Christ and the church by *Advance* magazine and its staff.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Remind Editors to Keep Within Certain Scriptural Limits

RESOLUTION 10-12

Overture 2-76U (URO, pp. 11—12)

WHEREAS, The official periodicals of the Synod cover a wide range of materials; and

WHEREAS, The Editorial Commission for Official Periodicals continues to search for ways of effectively communicating the Word of God to 20th-century readers; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod recognize that in spite of the constant efforts of the commission to present only those materials which are in keeping with the charge it has received from the Synod, statements may appear which are capable of being misunderstood; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod encourage the commission to continue its awareness of the need to present all materials in conformity with the Scriptures as its teachings are reflected in the Lutheran Confessions and the doctrinal position of the Synod.

Action: *Adopted* (7).

(An amendment to drop the last seven words failed to carry. A motion to divide the question failed, with only 190 standing for the affirmative. A motion to change "and the" to "which are the" in the final words failed by a standing vote of 337 to 435. A motion to recommit for more acceptable wording failed. The resolution was then adopted.)

To Amend Articles of Agreement of Concordia Publishing House

RESOLUTION 10-13

Report 10-08 (CW, pp. 421—422)

Resolved, That the Synod accept the recommendations of the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House, viz.:

1. Amend Article III by deleting from the second paragraph thereof the reference to the "Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States" and insert in lieu thereof: "The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod," so that, as amended, the second paragraph of said Article III shall read as follows:

The Directors shall hold their office for such time and in such manner and under such terms and conditions as may be set forth by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

2. Amend Article VI so that, as amended, said Article VI shall read as follows:

This association may receive by gift, devise and bequest real and personal property for any of the purposes herein above mentioned; but no part of any property acquired by this association by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or otherwise, nor the rents, issues or profits thereof, shall in any wise or in any manner, inure to or be used for the benefit of any officer, director, employee, or agent of this association, but the same shall be used wholly and solely for the purposes hereinabove set forth for the exclusive use and behoof of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Upon the dissolution or winding up of this association, its assets remaining after paying, or providing for the payment of, all debts and liabilities of this association, shall be distributed to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, an organization exempt from tax under the United States Internal Revenue Code. If at the time of such dissolution or winding up this association holds assets on trust, such assets shall, unless otherwise provided by the terms under which the same are held, be distributed to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to be thereafter held and administered on the same trusts.

3. Add a new Article VIII, reading as follows:

These articles of agreement may be amended at any meeting of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod by a majority vote of the voting delegates present at such meeting of said Synod, provided such amendments are not inconsistent

with the Constitution or laws of the United States or the State of Missouri and are thereafter approved by the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, Missouri.

Action: *Adopted as given above* (8).

Not to Designate 5% of CPH Profits to Concordia Tract Mission

RESOLUTION 10-14

Report 10-09 (CW, p. 422)

WHEREAS, The Concordia Tract Mission has been serving as an effective means of communicating the Gospel to many; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House has been subsidizing this program and is willing to continue subsidizing this excellent program; therefore be it

Resolved, That the recommendation that 5% of the profits of Concordia Publishing House be allocated to the Concordia Tract Mission be declined; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod encourage Concordia Publishing House to expand this program as it deems expedient; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod commend those responsible for the Concordia Tract Mission program; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod encourage its members to continue their support of the Concordia Tract Mission with their gifts and prayers.

Action: *Adopted* (8).

To Encourage Christian Art

RESOLUTION 10-15

Overture 10-10 (CW, p. 422)

WHEREAS, Art has always been an integral part of the worship life of the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That wherever possible the church develop and utilize new and nonverbal means of communication in its public worship and educational program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod and its Districts use all possible means to encourage and support the work of Christian artists in their midst.

Action: *Adopted* (8).

To Depict Characters Properly

RESOLUTION 10-16

Overtures 10-11, 10-12 (CW, pp. 422—423)

WHEREAS, The Gospel of Christ is intended for all men; and

WHEREAS, The church in its publications uses pictures depicting characters in presenting this Gospel; and

WHEREAS, Concordia Publishing House is presently endeavoring to depict characters without regard to race or color; therefore be it

Resolved, That Concordia Publishing House be encouraged to continue its present endeavor in this direction.

Action: Adopted (8).

To Publish Dr. Wm. Beck's Old Testament Translation if Feasible

RESOLUTION 10-17

Overtures 10-15, 10-16 (CW, p. 424)

WHEREAS, The matter of publishing the late Dr. William Beck's translation of the Old Testament in contemporary English is presently under consideration by the Commission on Church Literature and the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House; and

WHEREAS, More time would be required for publication than proposed in Overtures 10-15 and 10-16; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Commission on Church Literature and the Board of Directors of Concordia Publishing House be asked to continue their study of this manuscript and be encouraged to publish it if feasible.

Action: Adopted (8).

(An amendment to change the final words to "as soon as feasible" failed to carry.)

To Encourage Church Publications Study

RESOLUTION 10-18

Overture 10-21 (CW, p. 426)

WHEREAS, A plethora of publications has developed within our church at all levels; and

WHEREAS, Such proliferation risks wasteful overlap and mediocrity, impairing the image of the church internally and externally; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod authorize a study of all present publications within the church; and be it further

Resolved, That such study be undertaken by the Board for Public Relations; and be it finally

Resolved, That periodic reports be made to the Board of Directors of the Synod so that recommendations growing out of this study can be presented to the Synod at the Milwaukee convention.

Action: Adopted (18).

To Receive Report of KFUE, KFUE-FM

RESOLUTION 10-19

Report 10-24U (URO, pp. 76—77)

WHEREAS, Radio Station KFUE and KFUE-FM renders invaluable service in strengthening our witness to Christ and the Christian life; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod receive the report with thanks to the staff and personnel of KFUE, KFUE-FM; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod urge its pastors and con-

gregations to make use of the services KFUE provides; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod urge its members to remember KFUE in their prayers and also to give generously for its support through gifts and bequests.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Consider West Coast Office of Public Relations

RESOLUTION 10-20

Overture 10-27U (URO, p. 78)

WHEREAS, There is an emerging need to establish a public relations office on the West Coast; and

WHEREAS, The Board for Public Relations is presently studying the feasibility of establishing such an office; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 10-27U be referred to the Board for Public Relations for further consideration and action.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Take Action on Committee Report re Editing of Theological Journals

RESOLUTION 10-21

Report 10-07 (CW, pp. 420—421)

Resolved,

1. That the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, be commended for editing *The Springfielder* and be encouraged to continue to edit this theological journal;

2. That the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, be commended for editing the *Concordia Theological Monthly* and be encouraged to continue to edit it;

3. That Concordia Publishing House be authorized to publish both theological journals;

4. That the doctrinal content of such journals remain loyal to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Symbols, with that diversity of expression which is both allowable and desirable within these boundaries;

5. That the journals be edited with a view toward serving the needs of the professional workers of the church (pastors, missionaries, professors, and teachers), specifically for the purpose of professional growth, edification, and equipment for ministry; and also that these journals recognize their obligation to give a positive Lutheran theological witness to theologians and pastors outside our denomination;

6. That the content of these journals be regarded as the official position of the Synod only when they print what the Synod has adopted in convention; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod discharge the committee on editing theological journals.

Action: Adopted as amended (13).

(The final resolved at first read: "that the Synod discharge the committee with thanks." Point 3 was amended.

It had read: "... be authorized to publish the theological journal, *The Concordia Theological Monthly*." The assembly, caught napping, also decided to amend Point 1 by inserting "it" before "encouraged." This makes no sense.)

Not to Establish New Official Doctrinal Journal RESOLUTION 10-22

Overture 10-28U (URO, pp. 78—79)

WHEREAS, The Committee on Editing Theological Journals has recommended in its report (Report 10-07, CW, p. 421) that the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, and the faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, each be authorized to edit a theological journal; and

WHEREAS, The committee recommends for adoption by the Synod the principle "that the doctrinal content of such journals remain loyal to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Symbols, with that diversity of expression which is both allowable and desirable within these boundaries"; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod respectfully decline Overture 10-28U.

Action: Adopted (13).

To Publish Walther's Writings RESOLUTION 10-23

Report 10-23 (CW, p. 426)

WHEREAS, The Synod in its Cleveland convention authorized the Board of Governors of Concordia Historical Institute and the Commission on Church Literature to publish the writings of Dr. C. F. W. Walther; and

WHEREAS, The Synod directed the Fiscal Conference to make available the necessary funds for this project; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Publishing Walther's Writings has developed a plan for printing significant works of Walther in eight volumes; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod endorse the project once more; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod request the Board of Directors to find means to make this project possible.

Action: Adopted (13).

11. SPECIAL MINISTRIES AND SUNDRY MATTERS

To Remember Lutheran Deaconess Association RESOLUTION 11-01

Overture 11-13 (CW, p. 441)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Deaconess Association this year observes its 50th anniversary of service to the church; and

WHEREAS, The church has received many blessings

from the association and the services of the more than 300 deaconesses during these 50 years; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention encourage all congregations of the Synod to remember with thanks to God the service to the church by the association and its deaconesses by observing the association's golden anniversary on Sept. 21, 1969, or on another Sunday of their own choosing; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention encourage all the congregations of the Synod to consider whether their programs might be strengthened by the inclusion of a deaconess in their ministry; and be it finally

Resolved, That this convention receive with thanks the report of the Lutheran Deaconess Association.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Encourage Valparaiso University RESOLUTION 11-02

Report 11-D (CW, pp. 491—492)

WHEREAS, Valparaiso University continues to expand its programs and facilities for the training of laymen and laywomen for Christian service and has influenced many to seek a full-time professional career in the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That the university be encouraged to maintain its distinctive Christian character; and be it also

Resolved, That the university be thanked and commended for its report.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Urge Support of American Bible Society

RESOLUTION 11-03

Overture 11-14 (CW, p. 441)

WHEREAS, The Synod recognizes that the American Bible Society renders an essential worldwide missionary service through translating and publishing the Scriptures without note or comment and through distributing them without profit and usually below cost; and

WHEREAS, The American Bible Society is making an unprecedented contribution to the Christian witness through its widespread distribution of a new inexpensive translation of the New Testament; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod urge all its congregations and individual members to contribute to the work of the American Bible Society in order to provide the Scriptures needed for the missionary advance to which we are committed; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod encourage its Districts to emphasize in their programs the need for a wider reading and sharing of the Holy Scriptures in our own land and throughout the world.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Decline Overture on Home Ownership**RESOLUTION 11-04****Overture 11-12 (CW, p. 441)**

WHEREAS, The advisability of called workers owning their own homes is a local concern; therefore be it

Resolved, That this overture be declined.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Receive Report of Commission on Architecture**RESOLUTION 11-05****Report 11-21U (URO, pp. 81—82)**

WHEREAS, Congregations of the Synod should exercise good stewardship in their building programs; and

WHEREAS, The Commission on Architecture in its report has suggested a number of points worthy of consideration by these congregations; therefore be it

Resolved, That congregations of the Synod be encouraged to avail themselves of the services of the Commission on Architecture; and be it also

Resolved, That we receive the report of the Commission on Architecture with thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Support Ministry of Armed Forces Commission**RESOLUTION 11-06****Report 11-04 (CW, pp. 436—438)**

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces Commission has continued to provide varied and extensive Christian services to thousands of men and women in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces Commission is providing excellent chaplains to serve these men and women; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces Commission has made a unique contribution to the welfare of our service men and women by maintaining personal contact with and showing concern for each individual; therefore be it

Resolved, That individuals and congregations continue to support the ministry of the Armed Forces Commission; and be it further

Resolved, That pastors of the Synod be urged to keep the Armed Forces Commission informed on all addresses of men and women in the service; and be it finally

Resolved, That the report of the commission be accepted by this convention with commendation for the God-pleasing ministry rendered.

Action: *Adopted* (8).

To Commend Bethesda Lutheran Home**RESOLUTION 11-07****Report 11-A (CW, pp. 489—490)**

WHEREAS, Bethesda Lutheran Home provides an excellent spiritual ministry together with the developing program of physical services and utilization of new concepts of patient care for 666 retardates; and

WHEREAS, Bethesda has a continuing need for support from our congregations, in addition to the "His Too" crusade for capital funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend them for their fine program and encourage our congregations to generously support their program with prayers and offerings; and be it also

Resolved, That we accept their report with gratitude.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Decline Overture re Draft Counseling**RESOLUTION 11-08****Overture 11-11 (CW, p. 441)**

WHEREAS, Information on selective service is available through local, state, and national draft boards; and

WHEREAS, The Armed Forces Commission provides preinduction material for spiritual guidance; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 11-11 be declined.

Action: *Adopted* (13).

(This resolution was discussed in three sessions: 8, 9, 13. See also Res. 2-28.)

To Prescribe Procedures for Selection of Convention Site**RESOLUTION 11-09****Overtures 11-15 to 11-17 (CW, pp. 441—442)**

WHEREAS, Our synodical conventions are increasing in size with respect to both number of delegates and facilities required; and

WHEREAS, It is becoming increasingly difficult for many cities to handle efficiently a convention of such magnitude; and

WHEREAS, It is advisable that together with any invitation for a future convention, qualifications should be submitted indicating the ability of a city to meet certain minimum requirements; therefore be it

Resolved, That prior to submitting invitations the host group determine the minimum requirements from the Synod's convention manager and then submit their proposal to the Council of Presidents for recommendation to a convention.

Action: *Adopted* (2).

To Use Services of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation

RESOLUTION 11-10

Overture 11-10 (CW, p. 440)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation was established in 1959 in order "to provide a channel through which generous Christians can give to the Lord's work through direct gifts, annuities, wills, life income contracts, trust agreements, and other attractive and practical methods" in the exercise of their Christian stewardship particularly with respect to their accumulated possessions; and

WHEREAS, Actuarial, tax, accounting, and legal services can be provided best and more efficiently if efforts are concentrated in one organization; and

WHEREAS, Practical and efficient administration of this program can best be accomplished by one organization, thus also discouraging a fragmentation among the various agencies and entities within the structure of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod; and

WHEREAS, The Foundation can serve all agencies within the church in seeing that financial aid intended for them is not diverted while also assuring all agencies that they will not be faced with competitive proposals on annuity rates and life-income returns; therefore be it

Resolved, That all Districts, seminaries, colleges, boards, commissions, agencies, and entities of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod be encouraged to become acquainted with the services of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation so that they can benefit from such services; and be it further

Resolved, That each District, seminary, college, board, commission, agency, and entity of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod shall use the services of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation unless it can be established to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod that special circumstances make the Foundation an inappropriate vehicle.

Action: Adopted (9).

(An amendment to change "shall" to "will" in the final resolved failed.)

To Continue to Support Lutheran Hour

RESOLUTION 11-11

Report 11-C (CW, p. 491)

WHEREAS, Almighty God has granted His church the miracle of radio as a powerful 20th-century medium for the proclamation of Christ's saving Gospel throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Hour, "Bringing Christ to the Nations," has for 36 seasons proclaimed the saving Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and will through His blessing enter upon its 37th broadcasting year in the fall of 1969; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Hour has served as an im-

portant part of the total mission outreach of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and those in fellowship with it throughout the world; therefore be it

Resolved, That The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, in convention assembled at Denver, Colo., July 11—18, 1969, join the Lutheran Laymen's League, the program's sponsor, in heartfelt gratitude to Almighty God for His benediction upon the Lutheran Hour's ministry during the past 36 seasons; and be it further

Resolved, To encourage all of its congregations and members to continue to support the radio ministry with their fervent prayers, their dedicated interest, and their generous gifts; and be it finally

Resolved, That we receive the fine report on the Lutheran Hour with our thanks.

Action: Adopted (2).

To Receive Report of Lutheran Laymen's League

RESOLUTION 11-12

Report 11-B (CW, pp. 490—491)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Laymen's League continues to fulfill its purpose of informing and equipping the laity for fuller and more dedicated lives of service to Christ and His church; and

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Laymen's League has successfully utilized the modern media of mass communications via the printed page, radio, and television for the proclamation of Christ's saving Gospel; therefore be it

Resolved, That we unite with the Lutheran Laymen's League in heartfelt gratitude to Almighty God for His abundant blessings upon their dedicated service to the Kingdom; and be it also

Resolved, That we receive their report with commendation and thanks.

Action: Adopted (9).

To Encourage Congregations to Establish Office of Archivist

RESOLUTION 11-13

Overture 11-19U (URO, pp. 80—81)

WHEREAS, Accurate maintenance of congregational records will serve for immediate contemporary usage and for long-range planning and historical value; and

WHEREAS, Any kind of systematic and serviceable record system requires ongoing attention; and

WHEREAS, The Committee on Parish Records has established guidelines on the role and function of the congregational archivist; therefore be it

Resolved, That each congregation of the Synod be encouraged to establish the office of archivist in its midst.

Action: Adopted (9).

**To Accept Report of Department
of Archives and History, Concordia
Historical Institute
RESOLUTION 11-14**

Report 11-03 (CW, pp. 432—436)

WHEREAS, Concordia Historical Institute, the Department of Archives and History of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, serves the historical and archival needs of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, They have made significant progress in gathering, translating, and transcribing materials of historical interest and have been active in disseminating materials of historical interest to historians and other interested groups; and

WHEREAS, The events, people, and contributions of Lutheranism in the past are important to any understanding of the nature of our Synod and for an appreciation of this body; and

WHEREAS, Much of the financial resources needed for this work comes from individual membership in the Concordia Historical Institute and from contributions made by various groups and associations; therefore be it

Resolved, That we encourage congregations, pastors, teachers, and all others to help this important work by becoming members of the Institute and to utilize its resources; and be it further

Resolved, That we express gratitude to the Aid Association for Lutherans and the Lutheran Laymen's League for their significant contributions in support of this work; and be it further

Resolved, That we ask the Concordia Historical Institute to continue to call to the attention of the Synod significant anniversaries such as are listed in its report; and be it finally

Resolved, That we accept the report and express our gratitude to the director, the Board of Governors, and the staff for their dedicated service.

Action: Adopted (9).

**To Study Position on Lodges
RESOLUTION 11-15**

Overtures 11-07 to 11-09 (CW, pp. 439—440); 11-18U, 11-20U (URO, pp. 80—81)

WHEREAS, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod recognizes and continues to give testimony against the anti-Christian religious tenets promulgated by some lodges; and

WHEREAS, Faithfulness to our resurrected and living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ constrains the Synod and its congregations and pastors to continue unrelentingly such testimony publicly and privately; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing concern among the pastors and congregations of the Synod over the matter of lodge membership as evidenced by the increased

correspondence of the Commission on Fraternal Organizations and the number of overtures submitted; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of the Synod appoint a committee to study, in consultation with the Commission on Fraternal Organizations, the whole matter of the pastoral approach to the lodge and make recommendations, including *Handbook* changes if needed, to the next convention of the Synod.

Action: Adopted (13).

(The committee changed "lodge question" to "lodge" in the resolved. An amendment to insert "and lodge member" after "lodge" in the resolved failed.)

**To Present Common Witness with Other
Denominations to Lodges
RESOLUTION 11-16**

Overture 11-05 (CW, pp. 438—439)

WHEREAS, The Synod's Commission on Fraternal Organizations is already in consultation with other Christian denominations regarding a common witness against unchristian lodges; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention take no action on this overture.

Action: Adopted (13).

**To Give Common Witness to Lodges
Through LCUSA
RESOLUTION 11-17**

Overture 11-06 (CW, p. 439)

WHEREAS, It would be desirable that the Lutheran churches in LCUSA express a common witness against unchristian or anti-Christian organizations; therefore be it

Resolved, That we ask our commissioners to LCUSA to request the council to initiate and promote an educational program in the Lutheran bodies belonging to the council, presenting the Lutheran witness against such organizations.

Action: Adopted (13).

**To Acknowledge Letter from Evangelical
Lutheran Church of England
RESOLUTION 11-18**

Overture unreported and unpublished; reported at request of the President

WHEREAS, We have received the following resolution from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England:

Gratitude to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

WHEREAS, Our Lord has commanded us as brethren to dwell in love and to love one another even as He has loved us;

WHEREAS, Such love is a gift of God to His church, as a witness for all the world to see;

WHEREAS, This love has been vividly shown in our brethren's concern and support of our work in the E. L. C. E.;

WHEREAS, This love causes us to give thanks to God on their behalf; therefore be it

Resolved, That the 1969 Synod praise and thank God for His great love in Christ and the love of our brethren toward us; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our thanks to The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for their brotherly love shown toward us by their continued support of our work; and be it further

Resolved, That we assure them of our brotherly love and wish them God's richest blessings in their 1969 convention at Denver.
therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention receive this letter with thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (9).

To Thank Commission on Fraternal Organizations

RESOLUTION 11-19

Report 11-01 (CW, p. 427)

WHEREAS, The Commission on Fraternal Organizations has continued to offer valuable counsel and aid to the pastors and congregations of the Synod in dealing with the lodge problem; therefore be it

Resolved, That we thank the members of the commission for their labors and receive their report with thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (13).

To Use Services of Commission on Architecture

RESOLUTION 11-20

Report 11-21U (URO, pp. 81—82)

WHEREAS, Members of the Commission on Architecture, through training and experience, have highly developed skills in the fields of architecture for worship and education and in the areas of long-range planning, programing, and site selection; therefore be it

Resolved, That the various divisions of the Synod and the boards and committees of the Districts be encouraged to avail themselves of the services of the Commission on Architecture.

Action: *Adopted* (9).

To Receive Report of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation

RESOLUTION 11-21

Report 11-02 (CW, pp. 427—431)

WHEREAS, The report The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod Foundation provides a valuable source of information regarding its specialized services; and

WHEREAS, These services render a valuable contribution to the work of the church; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention receive the report of the foundation with thanks.

Action: *Adopted* (9).

12. STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE; RETIREMENT AND BENEFIT PROGRAMS

To Commend Dr. John E. Herrmann

RESOLUTION 12-01

Report: Unprinted

Resolved, That the following document of commendation, properly executed by the President and the Secretary of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, be presented to Doctor John E. Herrmann:

"And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."
Eph. 4:11-12

WHEREAS, Doctor John E. Herrmann has served his Lord and the church with unstinting devotion as parish pastor and as an executive secretary in the Kansas and the Western Districts; and

WHEREAS, He has served The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod very faithfully and effectively, being called in 1949 as the first Stewardship Counselor of our Synod and helping us achieve, under God, remarkable growth in the stewardship of our time, our talents, and our treasure; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod praise God for the many blessings given to His church through the dedicated labors of His servant, Doctor John E. Herrmann, and implore the Lord's blessing upon his continued service in the Kingdom; and be it finally

Resolved, That we pray the rich blessings of our heavenly Father upon Doctor and Mrs. John E. Herrmann.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Accept Report of Treasurer

RESOLUTION 12-02

Report 12-01 (CW, pp. 443—446)

Resolved, That this convention accept the extensive and detailed report of the Synod's Treasurer as found on pages 443—446; and be it also

Resolved, That this convention express appreciation for the excellent, competent work done by the staff of the Treasurer's office, the Assistant Treasurer, Erwin A. Wesche, and particularly to Doctor Milton Carpenter, Treasurer, who has so ably served our Lord and His church without compensation in this capacity since 1962.

Action: *Adopted* (3).

To Accept Report of Controller

RESOLUTION 12-03

Report 12-02 (CW, pp. 447—462)

Resolved, That the Synod in convention assembled

accept the various financial exhibits and schedules of the Controller as presented on pages 447—462; and be it further

Resolved, That the Synod herewith express heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for the information made available by the installation of the Uniform Accounting System in 24 Districts; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Synod express its thanks to Raymond C. Rauscher, Controller, and to the staff for the improvements that are being made to assist synodical and District officials in making more informed decisions toward increasing efficiency and effectiveness in synodical and District operations.

Action: *Adopted (3).*

To Accept Report of Board of Stewardship, Mission Education, and Promotion

RESOLUTION 12-04

Report 12-03 (CW, pp. 462—466)

Resolved, That this convention accept the report of the Board of Stewardship, Mission Education, and Promotion with gratitude and with special commendation for valuable services rendered during the past biennium and its progress in reorganizing and reshaping the department during this transitional period; and be it also

Resolved, That we thank our Lord that this board is directing us to the goal we must all seek: to combine the mission of the church and Christian stewardship in such a way that God's gifts to His people are used in the most effective way possible to achieve God's redemptive purposes for a dying world; and be it finally

Resolved, That we express our gratitude to the members of the stewardship staff for their faithful services, namely, Pastor A. Lorenz Grumm, Mr. Alfred Bieber, and Pastor O. A. Soeldner.

Action: *Adopted in the form given above (3).*

To Launch a "Soul-Winning-Seventies" Effort

RESOLUTION 12-05

Overture 12-08 (CW, p. 476)

WHEREAS, The new decade of the '70s confronts the congregations of the Synod with a variety of new and exciting opportunities for mission both local and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The natural tendency to give priority to causes close at hand has resulted in insufficient funding of the worldwide mission of the church through the Synod by the regular offerings of our people over the past 4 years; and

WHEREAS, Special Synodwide appeals have been necessary in 1967 and 1968 to supplement synodical budget income so that the church's corporate mission might not be critically hindered, and again in 1969 we are faced with the need of supplementing budget income to meet the minimum needs of the church's mission; and

WHEREAS, Such special appeals for synodical budget income develop poor stewardship attitudes and practices among our congregations as well as become increasingly unproductive in providing the necessary funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That the entire synodical family—officials and staffs, pastors and people, professors and students, teachers and pupils—launch into the new decade of the '70s with a "Soul-Winning-Seventies" effort, to win at least a million souls for Christ by—

1. A renewal of commitment to Christ and His mission of proclaiming the Gospel of salvation near and far, by the edifying Word;

2. A rededication to the basic principles first enunciated in the "Venture of Faith" movement that funds for the ongoing mission of the church through the Synod be provided by the regular offerings of our people;

3. A reaffirmation of the historic concept that the Synod is an extension of the congregation in fulfilling its commission from our Savior to proclaim the Gospel to all the world (Constitution, Art. III, 2); and be it further

Resolved, That under God we attempt to achieve these goals by—

1. A more zealous sharing of the Edifying Word together with its stewardship and mission implications on every level of congregational and synodical life; and

2. A reevaluation by every congregation of the percent ratio used in dividing the offerings of God's people, coupled with the determination to raise the percent ratio in favor of the worldwide mission through District and Synod by at least 2% per year, over the next 4 years, and to strive for the eventual optimum of 50/50; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Stewardship Department of the Synod provide District Presidents and leaders with guidance, materials, and helps necessary to lead the congregations of the Synod into a God-pleasing involvement in mission on every level.

Action: *Recommitted (3).*

(Before this action was taken, the committee agreed to change "Soul-Saving-Seventies" to "Soul-Winning-Seventies." The committee later offered Res. 12-24 as a replacement for 12-05.)

To Assign Specific Budget Items to Districts

RESOLUTION 12-06

Overture 12-38U (URO, p. 83)

WHEREAS, It is the function of the synodical Stewardship Department to provide mission-education information and materials; and

WHEREAS, This information can be used to inform the people of God that they might be able to fulfill to the greatest extent possible the mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, The desire for a more personalized mission program has been expressed by the laity; and

WHEREAS, Past experience has demonstrated that lay people respond more readily to such a personalized program; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Stewardship Department of the Synod—

1) explore the possibility of developing a program whereby a portion of the annual suggested goal for a District be designated for a specific area of the synodical budget;

2) be of assistance to the District in using this for the yearly District mission emphasis;

3) having found such an approach feasible, implement the program in the 1971 budget; and be it further

Resolved, That the mission areas suggested to the Districts be rotated from year to year to provide an in-depth understanding of the total mission needs and budget; and be it finally

Resolved, That the stewardship departments of the Districts be encouraged to redistribute specific mission and synodical budget items to individual congregations within each District.

Action: Adopted (10).

To Limit Budget to District Commitments and Sundry Income

RESOLUTION 12-07

Overture 12-09 (CW, p. 476)

WHEREAS, There has been an apparent lack of correlation between the District commitments to the Synod during the past 5 years and the actual receipts from Districts for synodical purposes, as demonstrated by the fact that the actual receipts fell \$3.7 million short of the District commitments; and

WHEREAS, There has been a parallel lack of correlation between the adopted synodical budget and the actual receipts from Districts, the difference amounting to \$11.3 million during this same 5-year period; and

WHEREAS, The adopted synodical budgets have exceeded expected income from the Districts, i. e., the District commitments, by \$7.6 million from 1964 to 1968; and

WHEREAS, Actual disbursements for total current operations were barely met by all receipts of the Synod, including sundry sources of income, and have, in fact, exceeded the actual receipts from Districts by \$6.2 million during this same 5-year period; and

WHEREAS, This seems to suggest a stewardship problem on the part of all Districts and members, as well as a planning problem in corporate financial matters on the part of those entrusted with the establishment of synodical budgets; and

WHEREAS, These problems should lead to a reassessment of the total synodical stewardship of financial affairs; therefore be it

Resolved, That every District support adequately the well-planned work of the Synod by correspondingly

increasing its monetary support for the Synod, as the support of the individual District is increased by its members; and be it further

Resolved, That those entrusted with the establishment of synodical budgets return to the implied principles of Christian stewardship set forth in the synodical *Handbook*, Section 9.03, particularly paragraph f, wherein we are directed to maintain a planned budget closely in line with District commitments; and be it further

Resolved, That such planned budgets be based on District commitments in addition to income from sundry sources; and be it finally

Resolved, That since we historically have seen a reduced realization in actual receipts from Districts in comparison with District commitments, that this observed historical realization factor be determined and utilized in the establishing of future budgets.

Action: Adopted as given above (10).

(The committee agreed to an expanded title and to the substitution of "in addition to" for "exclusive of" in the third resolved.)

To Continue Development of Natural and Human Resources

RESOLUTION 12-08

Overture 12-34 (CW, p. 481)

WHEREAS, The stewardship of all natural and human resources in the world has been given into human hands by our heavenly Father (Gen. 1:28-31); and

WHEREAS, The air, water, minerals, and plant and animal life of this planet are being polluted, poisoned, exploited, and laid waste, and our human resources mismanaged; and

WHEREAS, Many of our laymen and clergy are active in the restoration and/or preservation of these resources; and

WHEREAS, Many of the materials produced and distributed by the Synod and its auxiliaries and agencies (LLL, LWML, CPH, Sunday school, devotional and vacation Bible school materials) are designed to equip our people for these responsibilities; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod and its auxiliaries and agencies continue the development of materials which provide the proper theological perspective and encouragement in these matters; and be it finally

Resolved, That we continue to exhort one another to take a more active role in fulfilling these Christian responsibilities.

Action: Adopted (10).

To Accept Report of Board of Trustees for Trust Funds

RESOLUTION 12-09

Report 12-04 (CW, p. 466-467)

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees show by their report they have been competent and diligent in their

task of making wise use of moneys through investments; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod accept the report of the Board of Trustees and express gratitude to the members (Dr. Martin E. Strieter, chairman, Ralph E. Petering, Robert W. Selle, Arthur T. Wellman, Walter Koch, Erwin A. Wesche, Dr. Oliver Harms, and Dr. Milton Carpenter) and others for faithful service during the biennium.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Receive Report of Board of Pensions and Support

RESOLUTION 12-10

Report 12-05 (CW, pp. 467—471)

Committee 12 has spent hours in careful study of the above-mentioned report and has heard further personal reports from the officers responsible for these written reports. Great strides in the upgrading of the Pension Plan have been achieved through the efforts of the board and the specially appointed work committee. Committee 12 has also discussed in detail the report of the Pension Work Committee and submits the following resolution:

Resolved, That the convention receive the report of the Board of Pensions and Support and commend the board members for their faithfulness and dedication in carrying out the intent of the Pension Plan, and that we extend our gratitude to Walter E. Lichtsinn, chairman, Clarence M. Moses, Emmett H. Fastenau, Fred A. Heisler, Robert D. Murray, and John Knippenberg, executive secretary, for their tireless efforts to provide the maximum in benefits for the workers enrolled in the Pension Plan; and be it further

Resolved, That the Work Committee Report (CW, pp. 468—470) be accepted and that the convention commend the Work Committee (Ralph E. Petering, chairman, Arthur Wellman, Robert D. Murray, Rev. John Knippenberg, Earl Haake, and Herbert W. Schuppan) for their far-reaching efforts to upgrade the Pension Plan; and be it further

Resolved, That a work committee be a regular feature of the Board of Pensions and Support, Board of Managers—Concordia Plans, and Board of Trustees, and that future work committees be charged with the responsibility of reviewing item No. 9, a to e (CW, p. 470) —

- a. Distribution of accumulated surplus in the Annuity Fund;
- b. Appropriateness of the use of 50% of the appreciation in the common stock fund;
- c. Mortality experience of our retired lives compared with assumptions in the annuity purchase rate;
- d. Investment yield and outlook for the future in comparison with the interest assumption in the annuity purchase rate;
- e. While the Work Committee does not recommend

the separation of the various funds into segregated asset accounts, this subject should also be left open to review; and be it finally

Resolved, That we commend for their study and consideration the feasibility of (a) possible alternate options for retirees at the time of retirement, e. g., lump-sum payments rather than monthly annuity; (b) closing the accounts of members where the amounts are small and retirement is years in the future; and (c) any other item that would improve the benefits of the Pension Plan and grant the maximum return for the enrollees.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Approve Reports of Board of Managers for Concordia Welfare Plan, Concordia Survivor Plan, Concordia Retirement Plan

RESOLUTION 12-11

Reports 12-06 (CW, pp. 471—475); 12-39U (URO, p. 84)

WHEREAS, The preliminary report of the Board of Managers for Concordia Retirement Plan and Concordia Welfare Plan (12-06, CW, pp. 471 ff.) and this board's supplementary report (12-39U, URO, p. 84) reflect, in the judgment of Committee 12, marked diligence, initiative, and resourcefulness in carrying out the objectives of the plans under their direction: to propose and gain required authorization of the greatest benefits for the greatest number of present and retired workers and their dependents covered by the plans, consistent with prudent stewardship of resources; therefore be it

Resolved, That preliminary and supplementary reports of the Board of Managers be approved in their entirety; and be it also

Resolved, That the convention express its gratitude to the board and its administrators (Herbert W. Schuppan, chairman, E. H. Fastenau, Henry E. Gaertner, Herman F. Feucht, Herbert P. Haschke, Robert H. Mugge, Robert V. Schnabel, Earl E. Haake, administrator, Lorenz F. Wahlers, associate administrator).

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Decline Overtures to Raise Minimum Monthly Pension

RESOLUTION 12-12

Overtures 12-20 (CW, pp. 479—480); 12-37U (URO, p. 83)

Introduction

In considering the various pension overtures, Committee 12 believes it is profitable to review the philosophy and provisions of the Synod's pension plans. Therefore a few preliminary, positive statements may serve as background to the recommendations concerning the overtures considered by the committee.

1. The retirement plans were designed as an inter-

grated part of the Synod's total program to provide for the welfare of the workers in the Synod. The philosophy in the design of the plans was to provide the greatest benefits for the greatest number of covered workers at the lowest reasonable cost to the participating congregations.

2. The two plans, the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers and the Concordia Retirement Plan, are structured and funded in different ways and are controlled by different actuarial, legal, and tax considerations. It is therefore necessary to consider separately the impact of the overtures on each of the respective plans.

3. Provisions in both plans limiting the vesting of benefits in participants are not based upon any motive or desire to deprive any participant of an accrued benefit upon termination of employment but derive from actuarial, tax, and other customary pension design considerations.

4. The provisions of the plans do not permit the expenditure of any pension trust moneys for other than retirement plan purposes, and in particular none of the pension moneys can revert to the Synod.

5. The old plan—Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers—is not an IRS-approved “qualified” retirement or annuity plan, and the tax consequences of vesting and withdrawal overtures are governed by Federal

tax provisions applicable to the special nature of that plan. While it is designed as an individual-account money-purchase plan, the group concept exists, in particular, from an actuarial and investment standpoint.

6. The Concordia Retirement Plan is a “qualified plan” under the Internal Revenue Code and is governed by the specific provisions applicable to such a plan. It is also totally based on the concept of group funding whereby the total plan liabilities are met by an across-the-board rate structure. Therefore it is a misconception to postulate that contributions based on a member's compensation buy a specific benefit for such member.

7. Present fund assets and contributions are adequate to provide only the present benefits of each plan. Changes such as permissive withdrawals or immediate vesting will require greater contributions or reduced benefits for members.

8. The operation of a pension plan involves such technical and complex matters in the actuarial, investment, tax, and legal areas that a delegate convention must exercise great care and intelligent restraint in considering changes in the plans.

WHEREAS, The adoption of Overture 12-20 requesting \$250 per month pension would result in higher subsidy expenditures from the Synod's future operating budgets; for example, in 1970 alone this would amount to



\$3,023,000, an increase of \$1,394,000 over the 1970 expected subsidy of \$1,629,000; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Pensions and Support, with the approval of the Board of Directors, has, effective Sept. 1, 1969, established \$165 per month per worker (\$99 for widow) as the minimum pension benefit, an increase of 10%, and has accomplished this without additional burden upon the operating budget of the Synod; and

WHEREAS, The aforesaid action of the Board of Pensions and Support has anticipated the request of Overture 12-37U to the extent that it appears economically feasible; and

WHEREAS, It is the view of the Pension Work Committee that if the investment performance does continue as it has in the past few years, an increase in the minimum pension to \$175 a month can be realistically anticipated within 3 years; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overtures 12-20 and 12-37U be respectfully declined.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

(A motion to recommit was lost.)

To Decline Overtures to Permit Withdrawal of Pension Plan Contributions

RESOLUTION 12-13

Overtures 12-10 to 12-15, 12-17, 12-19 (CW, pp. 476—479); 12-35U, 12-36U (URO, p. 83); also New York Res. 10-08

WHEREAS, The Board of Pensions and Support has thoroughly studied the ramifications of Resolution 10-08 of the New York convention regarding the legal, tax, and actuarial effects of withdrawals of Pension Plan contributions (see Report 12-05, CW, pp. 470—471); and

WHEREAS, This would be contrary to the original intent of the Pension Plan; and

WHEREAS, To place pension funds in tax-sheltered annuity plans would be impossible under the essence of resolutions previously adopted; and

WHEREAS, A large withdrawal would make it impossible to set up programed investments; and

WHEREAS, This is a group plan, set up for workers in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number of workers; and

WHEREAS, After careful study the committee foresees many problems that would be of serious consequence to the majority of workers in the plan; therefore be it

Resolved, That the convention accept the recommendation of the Board of Pensions and Support (pp. 470—471); and be it also

Resolved, That the above-listed overtures be respectfully denied.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Decline Overtures to Provide Additional Vesting in Retirement and Pension Plans

RESOLUTION 12-14

Overtures 12-16 (CW, pp. 478—479); 12-40U to 12-42U (URO, pp. 84—85)

WHEREAS, The subject overtures involve additional vesting under both the Concordia Retirement Plan and the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers; and

WHEREAS, Additional vesting entails added costs without any increase in benefits; and

WHEREAS, Maximum benefits consistent with prudent stewardship of resources are being provided under the existing contribution rates; therefore be it

Resolved, That no changes be made to provide additional vesting in either the Concordia Retirement Plan or the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers.

Action: *Adopted* (5).

To Retain Present Scope of Participation in Pension and Retirement Plans

RESOLUTION 12-15

Overtures 12-18, 12-32, 12-33 (CW, pp. 479, 481)

WHEREAS, A basic concept in the Pension Plan and Concordia Retirement Plan from their inception is to provide maximum retirement benefits for a homogeneous group comprised of professional and lay workers in The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and its affiliated agencies; therefore be it

Resolved, That no changes in the scope of participation in the Pension Plan and Concordia Retirement Plan be authorized.

Action: *Adopted* (7).

To Investigate Medical Coverage for Dependents of Married Students at Terminal Schools

RESOLUTION 12-16

Overtures 12-22 to 12-31 (CW, pp. 480—481)

WHEREAS, The Concordia Welfare Plan is qualified as an association of employees, so that only full-time employees can receive the benefits of this plan; and

WHEREAS, The employer-employee relationship does not exist in regard to the above overtures; and

WHEREAS, By the provisions of the plan and qualifications of IRS it is financially and legally impossible to include students at terminal schools or their dependents; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overtures 12-22, 12-23, 12-24, 12-25, 12-26, 12-27, 12-28, 12-29, 12-30, and 12-31 be respectfully declined; and be it also

Resolved, That the Synod request the Board of Managers — Concordia Plans in conjunction with the Board for Higher Education to study this matter and attempt

to devise a plan that would secure adequate means of protection of reasonable medical coverage for dependents of married students at our terminal schools.

Action: Adopted (7).

To Decline to Make Certain Claims Procedures Retroactive

RESOLUTION 12-17

Overture 12-43U (URO, p. 85)

WHEREAS, The claim procedure adopted by the Board of Managers — Concordia Plans includes the individual handling of exceptional cases regarding claim appeals; and

WHEREAS, It is the province of the Synod to set general principles of operation but not management details; and

WHEREAS, The committee finds that the Board of Managers and Board of Directors have followed a consistent pattern of making changes and adjusting claim procedures; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 12-43U be respectfully declined.

Action: Adopted (7).

To Decline Overture re Loans to High Schools from Pension Fund

RESOLUTION 12-18

Overture 12-21 (CW, p. 480)

WHEREAS, Overture 12-21 requests the Synod to "make available to Lutheran high school associations capital-fund loans from the department of investments of the synodical Pension Fund"; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, in investing the reserves of the Pension Fund, and the corporate investment agent, appointed by the Board of Managers to invest reserves of the Concordia Plans, are governed by the widely followed investment standards of the so-called "Prudent Man Rule," which, as related to loans, presupposes the application of reasonable tests of credit worthiness and financial responsibility, a satisfactory rate of interest, and adequacy and marketability of the security; and

WHEREAS, Loans from any such pension reserves would ordinarily be on terms and at interest rates generally comparable to loan terms available from commercial lending sources; and

WHEREAS, The overture appears to ask the Synod to relax investment standards in order to make loans to high school associations, which the committee cannot recommend for action; therefore be it

Resolved, That Overture 12-21 be declined; and be it also

Resolved, That any high school association whose borrowing request would qualify under the investment standards applicable to the pension reserves take note

that its borrowing request can be considered for possible investment.

Action: Adopted (7).

To Encourage Congregations to Put Forth Special Efforts in 1969

RESOLUTION 12-19

Report 12-03 (CW, pp. 462—466)

WHEREAS, The 1969 synodical budget exceeds District commitments; and

WHEREAS, Challenging and God-pleasing opportunities for the building of God's church must be completed in 1969; therefore be it

Resolved, That we urge each congregation to put forth a special effort to exceed its regular commitment, and also to support wholeheartedly the Synodwide special offering scheduled for the 30th of November, 1969, so that our 1969 program may be completed.

Action: Adopted as amended (10).

("Kingdom" was changed to "church" by the committee. The amendment was to insert the reference to the special offering in the final resolved and to eliminate "meet or" before "exceed.")

RESOLUTION 12-20

(Withdrawn by the committee)

RESOLUTION 12-21

(Withdrawn by the committee)

To Express Gratitude for "President's Fellowship" Program

RESOLUTION 12-22

Report 12-01 (CW, pp. 444—445)

WHEREAS, The "President's Fellowship" effort, in securing additional funds for capital needs, has resulted in the phenomenal success, under the blessed hand of God, of raising in excess of \$1½ million in cash and pledges in the short time of approximately 1 year; and

WHEREAS, This effort was initiated by the President of the Synod and pursued by him at considerable personal sacrifice of time and effort; therefore be it

Resolved, That we express our profound thanks to the President of the Synod, Doctor Oliver Harms, for his successful and productive services beyond the call of duty.

Action: Adopted (7).

To Decline Proposed \$30 Million Offering, to Decline Participation in LCUSA Open End Appeal, and to Evaluate and Interpret Priorities

RESOLUTION 12-23

Overtures 3-17, 12-07 (CW, pp. 99, 475); 2-73U, 3-360U, 3-361U (URO, pp. 10—11, 41)

WHEREAS, Numerous Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod agencies and departments have ongoing pro-

grams which operate in and direct themselves toward the action areas outlined under the proposed LCUSA Open End Appeal and the requested \$30 million offering for relief and inner-city missions; and

WHEREAS, There are many unanswered questions concerning the administration, allocation of funds, and selection of possible recipients, regarding the proposed LCUSA Open End Appeal; therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize that opportunities for rich and total ministries in our nation's larger metropolitan inner cities and in many areas throughout the world are ripe and limitless; and be it further

Resolved, That we caution ourselves against the sin of "living in purple and fine linen" while passing by the beggar and the poor on the street; and be it further

Resolved, That each and every member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod reassess and prayerfully consider his own personal blessings from God and in reflection of the love of Christ reevaluate personal and corporate stewardship plans and goals and gifts; and be it further

Resolved, That participation in the \$30 million offering and the proposed LCUSA Open End Appeal be respectfully declined at this time, but that we request the Board of Directors in consultation with the Stewardship Department to continue study and investigation of the proposed LCUSA Open End Appeal and to come with an appropriate recommendation to the next convention of the Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That congregations be encouraged to continue supporting prayerfully and financially our present programs of social ministry and World Relief; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board of Directors plan the development of an annual united appeal which will provide funds for the Board of World Relief, inner-city research and ministry, and similar social ministries within our church.

Action: *Adopted (10).*

(A motion to recommit failed. An effort to amend the fourth resolved to empower the Board of Directors to commit the Synod to participate in the LCUSA Open End Appeal instead of making recommendations to the next convention failed by a standing vote of 273 to 426.)

To Return to Basic Principles of Venture of Faith

RESOLUTION 12-24 (replacing 12-05)

Overture 12-08 (CW, p. 476)

WHEREAS, Special Synodwide appeals have been necessary in 1967 and 1968 and will be necessary again in 1969 to supplement synodical budget income so that the church's corporate mission might not be critically hindered; and

WHEREAS, Such special appeals for synodical budget income develop poor stewardship attitudes and practices among our congregations and become increasingly

unproductive in providing the necessary funds; therefore be it

Resolved, That we engage in a more zealous sharing of the edifying Word together with its stewardship and mission implications on every level of congregational and synodical life; and be it further

Resolved, That each congregation reevaluate the percent ratio used in dividing its offerings between the home budget and the worldwide mission program, after which each congregation is urged to strive for a more favorable ratio in favor of the worldwide mission through District and the Synod by increasing its giving by at least 2% per year; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Stewardship Department of the Synod provide District Presidents and leaders with guidance, materials, and helps necessary to lead the congregations of the Synod into a God-pleasing involvement in mission on every level.

Action: *Adopted (10).*

13. NOMINATIONS

The report of the Board for Convention Nominations (see *Workbook*, pp. 482—486) was presented and adopted with several changes listed in the minutes. Other names were placed in nomination from the floor. See Minutes, Sessions 1 and 7, for details.

14. ELECTIONS

The complete results of the elections held during the convention are appended to the Minutes.

15. REGISTRATION, CREDENTIALS, AND EXCUSES

Committee 15 is happy to report that a total of 993 voting delegates (500 pastors and 493 laymen) were present at this historic convention in Denver, Colo. There were also 558 advisory delegates, thus making a total convention membership of 1,551.

In addition to these, there were 61 youth representatives and 896 registered visitors plus a large number of unregistered visitors.

Three pastoral voting delegates and 10 lay voting delegates were absent. We're very sorry these men were unable to share this enriching experience with us.

Our committee wishes to pay special public tribute to Dr. Herbert Mueller, the Synod's Secretary, for his kindness and technical assistance; also to the Rev. James Groerich and his staff for their many long hours of hard work, for their devotion to their Lord, their helpfulness to our committee, and their graciousness to all of you.

Action: *Adopted (16).*

(For complete registration listings and tabulations, see first pages of the *PROCEEDINGS*.)

16. WORK PROGRAM REVIEW

Report of Work Program Committee 16

In accord with the *Handbook* 9.03 (c) (d), page 171, regulations of the Synod, Committee No. 16 has made a detailed and objective study of the synodical Work Program Prospectus as prepared by the Council of Administrators and as revised by the Board of Directors of Synod. The committee has reviewed with representatives of the various divisions and staff their detailed requests. The cost estimates for the various convention resolutions have also been reviewed which may affect the total of our work program for the next two years. According to the *Handbook* regulations the 2-year work program recommended for adoption is not the working budget but a projected program that the committee believes will meet the minimum needs of our Synod for the two years involved in the program. The program which the convention adopts will be presented by the Board of Directors to the Districts of the Synod.

RESOLUTION 16-01

WHEREAS, It is necessary to raise the sum of \$30,827,-100 for the year 1970 and the sum of \$32,131,700 for the year 1971 in order to maintain the present synodical program to continue the work of the Lord in our Synod

and to carry out the various resolutions of this convention; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Synod in this convention adopt as its work program for the coming biennium:

\$30,827,100 for the year 1970

\$32,131,700 for the year 1971

as more specifically detailed in the schedules set out here below.

Action: Adopted (14).

RESOLUTION 16-02

WHEREAS, Even with severe curtailment of some functions and the withholding of anticipated expenditures at every level, it has not been possible for the Synod to carry out the approved program for 1969 within the anticipated income; and

WHEREAS, The work program requests for 1970 and 1971 exceed the 1969 operating budget, and the Work Program Review Committee of this convention, even after making drastic reductions, finds it imperative to submit a work program for the approval of this convention which is in excess of any income anticipated at the moment; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention seriously weigh the

SCHEDULE

	1970			1971	
	1969 Budget	Requests by Divisions	Work Prog. Recomm.	Requests by Divisions	Work Prog. Recomm.
Operating Divisions					
Missions	\$10,536,600	\$11,356,000	\$11,000,000	\$11,776,600	\$11,500,000
Special Ministries	884,000	995,425	963,700	1,053,125	1,000,000
Higher Education	9,908,100	10,642,270	10,508,100	11,085,185	11,108,100
Communications and Public Relations	1,213,800	1,475,400	1,338,000	1,558,500	1,409,000
Total Operating Divisions	\$22,542,500	\$24,469,095	\$23,809,800	\$25,473,410	\$25,017,100
Service Divisions					
Including Parish Education, Social Ministry, Young People's Work, and World Relief ..	\$ 1,046,900	\$ 1,281,832	\$ 1,151,000	\$ 1,380,832	\$ 1,223,700
Governmental Divisions					
Including Commission on Theology and Council of Presidents	\$ 190,800	\$ 210,900	\$ 196,000	\$ 220,100	\$ 206,000
Administrative Divisions					
General Administration	\$ 361,000	\$ 351,600	\$ 346,600	\$ 412,400	\$ 407,400
Finance (incl. Pensions and Support)	2,292,000	2,245,000	2,245,000	2,174,000	2,174,000
Lutheran Council, U. S. A. and Canada	808,000	839,807	840,000	876,600	842,000
Grants and Special Endeavors	111,500	118,000	118,000	98,000	98,000
Staff Services	511,600	531,750	520,700	554,645	551,000
Controllershship	213,800	230,000	250,000	243,000	262,500
Total Administrative Divisions	\$ 4,297,900	\$ 4,316,157	\$ 4,320,300	\$ 4,358,645	\$ 4,334,900
Total — All Divisions	\$28,078,100	\$30,277,984	\$29,477,100	\$31,432,987	\$30,781,700
Debt Retirement	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,000,000
Contingent Reserve	\$ 280,900	\$ 422,016	\$ 350,000	\$ 367,013	\$ 350,000
TOTAL OPERATING PROGRAM	\$29,459,000	\$32,200,000	\$30,827,100	\$33,300,000	\$32,131,700

impact of any resolutions which place a further financial burden upon the Synod; and be it further

Resolved, That the capital expenditures within the Synod for the next biennium be limited to the use of those funds presently available, or which are received specifically for capital expenditures without any Synod-wide campaign effort; and be it further

Resolved, That a moratorium be declared for the next 2 years on all congregational Synod-wide special offerings but with the exception of presently approved efforts and any other Synod-wide congregational offerings which this convention may authorize for the biennium; and be it further

Resolved, That at the synodical, District, and congregational level we recognize the serious financial problem which our church faces whereby our synodical income must be increased annually by a minimum of 10% and that we make every effort to launch into the 70's by pledging increased financial support of our synodical program; and be it finally

Resolved, That the delegates to this convention assume the responsibility for helping to communicate this need.

Action: *Adopted (14).*

17. SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW LATE OVERTURES

The Special Committee to Review Late Overtures, appointed by the President in accordance with paragraph 1.27, b, of the *Handbook*, received and evaluated six overtures and communications, which were submitted within the 10-day period prior to the opening date of the convention.

The criteria that formed the basis of the committee's evaluation consisted of two questions: First, is the material in the overture new, or is it already before the convention in some form? Second, is the material in the overture of such urgency and importance as to demand the attention and time of the convention?

On the basis of these criteria, the committee recommends that just one of these overtures, which simply applies for the admission of two congregations of the Northwest District into the membership of the Synod, be received by the convention and be given to the appropriate floor committee for consideration.

ROBERT W. HELBERG, *Chairman*

ARNOLD W. LOHSE

OLIVER A. LUECKE

Action: *Adopted (7).*

APPENDIX

Merger of Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches with The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

(The Detroit convention of the Synod invited the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches to merge with the Missouri Synod. This matter was pursued by a joint committee consisting of Dr. Roland Wiederaenders [LCMS], chairman; Rev. Andrew Brondos [SELC], secretary; Rev. John Bajus, Mr. Joseph Cell, Rev. John Kucera [SELC]; Dr. Fred Kramer, Dr. Herbert Mueller, Dr. W. F. Wolbrecht [LCMS].

The work of the joint committee resulted in the development and adoption of "An Agreement" with two additional documents attached. This "Agreement," given below, was to be presented to the conventions of both church bodies for affirmative action. In the Missouri Synod convention it received a unanimous vote of approval on July 12, 1969, 3:10 p. m.)

AN AGREEMENT

BE IT AGREED by and between The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod ("Missouri Synod"), a Missouri not-for-profit corporation, and the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches ("SELC"), a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation, as follows:

1. This Agreement shall become effective upon the later of the following dates (herein referred to as "Initial Effective Date"):

a. The date when the President of the Missouri Synod certifies to the President of the SELC that this Agreement has been approved by the Missouri Synod; and

b. The date when the President of the SELC certifies to the President of the Missouri Synod that this Agreement has been approved by the SELC.

2. As a part of its approval of this Agreement, appropriate action shall be taken by the SELC to authorize, promptly following the Initial Effective Date, such appropriate steps under the laws of Pennsylvania as may be necessary to accomplish the following:

a. A change in the corporate name of the SELC to "SELC District of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod" in accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Pennsylvania.

b. An amendment of its Constitution to bring the same into conformity with the provisions of paragraph 8 hereof.

3. Upon the Initial Effective Date, the following shall take place:

a. The SELC, as a body corporate, shall become a nongeographical District of the Missouri Synod, to be known as the "SELC District"; and

b. The congregations, pastors, and called male teachers of the SELC shall become members of the Missouri Synod and shall be assigned by the President of the Missouri Synod to the SELC District.

4. A plan of merger, satisfying the requirements of Missouri law applicable to the Missouri Synod and the requirements of Pennsylvania law applicable to the SELC, shall be prepared, in consultation with the Advisory Commission herein provided for, which plan of merger shall provide for the merger of the SELC into the Missouri Synod, which shall be the surviving corporation, and containing such provisions not inconsistent with this Agreement as may be required by law. Such plan of merger shall be submitted to and approved by a convention of the SELC and a convention of the Missouri Synod, prior to the opening day of the 1977 convention of the Missouri Synod with the view and purpose that all requisite steps shall be taken under the laws of Pennsylvania and Missouri in order to make the plan of merger effective on or about the opening day of said 1977 convention. With the consent of each party, the effective date of the merger may be advanced or postponed. For the purposes of this Agreement, the effective date of the merger is herein referred to as the Consummation Date.

5. Upon the Consummation Date the President of the Missouri Synod shall assign the congregations, pastors, and teachers of the SELC District to the proper geographical Districts of the Missouri Synod.

6. At any time prior to the Consummation Date (as herein set or as advanced or postponed) either the Missouri Synod or the SELC shall be free to withdraw from this Agreement, provided that notice of such withdrawal shall have been given to the other at least one year in advance of the withdrawal date. Upon such withdrawal, the status prior to the Initial Effective Date shall be restored. The SELC shall thereupon cease to be a District of the Missouri Synod, shall amend its articles of incorporation to resume its former name, and shall function again as a separate church, but the Missouri Synod and the SELC shall be in fellowship with each other. Upon such withdrawal the congregations, pastors, and teachers of the SELC shall cease to be members of the Missouri Synod and shall thereafter be members of the SELC.

7. The period between the Initial Effective Date and the Consummation Date is herein referred to as the Interim Period.

8. During the Interim Period, the SELC District shall be governed by (i) the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Synod, (ii) additional District bylaws adopted by the SELC District and approved by the Commission on Constitutional Matters of the Missouri Synod, and (iii) those provisions of the SELC's historic Constitution which are retained as a part thereof and which are not in conflict with (i) and (ii). Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, no provision of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Missouri Synod shall be

applied to the SELC District which is in conflict with this Agreement.

9. During the Interim Period, the SELC District shall be aggressive in mission in accord with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Synod and shall also lend full support to the programs of the Synod.

10. The President of the Missouri Synod shall be responsible for the implementation of this Agreement, and he shall report on the progress of the same to the Missouri Synod and to the SELC District. He shall appoint an Advisory Commission of six (6) members, including three (3) members of the SELC District, to assist and advise him during the Interim Period and thereafter as long as necessary. Commission members shall be appointed to renewable two-year terms.

11. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent.

12. Whenever any approval, consent, or action of a party hereto is herein provided for or permitted, such approval, consent, or action shall be given or taken for such party by its Board of Directors or by its delegate convention, as such party may direct in its approval of this Agreement, except as otherwise specifically required by applicable law.

13. The Church Extension Fund Document (Exhibit A) and the Pension and Annuity Document (Exhibit B) attached hereto are incorporated herein and made a part hereof as though herein fully set forth.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The President of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and the President of the Synod of Evangelical Lutheran Churches have signed this Agreement subject to the requisite approvals as herein set forth.

(signed) DR. OLIVER R. HARMS FOR
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD
(signed) DR. JOHN KOVAC FOR
SYNOD OF EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Exhibit A

**Church Extension Fund Document to the SELC-LCMS
Union Agreement**

1. During the Interim Period, the Church Extension Fund of the SELC shall operate as a separate District Extension Fund under the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Missouri Synod applicable to extension funds.

2. During the Interim Period the following steps shall be taken and the following procedures adopted:

a. The records of the SELC Church Extension Fund shall be audited as of December 31, 1968.

b. All documentation in support of SELC loans, whether outstanding on the Initial Effective Date or made during the Interim Period, shall be reviewed by legal counsel for the Missouri Synod. If the standards applied to Missouri Synod extension loans are not met, the SELC District shall endeavor by all means possible to supply deficiencies.

c. Uniform accounting procedures shall be adopted

by the SELC District for its Extension Fund in conformance with existing Missouri Synod procedures.

3. Upon the Consummation Date, the assets of the SELC District Church Extension Fund shall become the property of the Missouri Synod and shall be transferred to the Church Extension Fund of the Missouri Synod or its nominee(s) as directed by the Board of Directors of the Missouri Synod upon recommendation of the President of the Missouri Synod, acting after consultation with the Advisory Commission. The liabilities of the SELC District Church Extension Fund shall be assumed by the Missouri Synod.

Exhibit B

**Pension and Annuity Document to the SELC-LCMS
Union Agreement**

1. During the Interim Period, the SELC District shall continue operating and financing its present annuity plan for those entitled to receive pensions on the Initial Effective Date or who retire or otherwise become entitled to a pension during the Interim Period.

In preparation for the Consummation Date and as soon as possible following the Initial Effective Date, the SELC shall take the following steps:

a. The personnel included in the SELC's present annuity plan shall be defined and identified.

b. An actuarial study shall be made of present and potential annuitants under the SELC annuity plan and the actuarial liabilities of such annuity plan, giving appropriate effect to the benefits accruing under the plans of the Missouri Synod in which such worker may be participating.

c. A program to fund the actuarial liabilities as established by the actuarial study shall be adopted and pursued by the necessary application of funds, to the end that on the Consummation Date the funds available under the annuity plan will be substantially equal to the actuarially determined liabilities of such plan.

2. The SELC District, effective as of the Initial Effective Date, shall become a participating employer in the Missouri Synod's Concordia Retirement Plan, Concordia Survivor Plan, Concordia Welfare Plan, and Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers, and shall enroll its eligible employees and the eligible employees of its boards and agencies in said plans, depending upon the eligibility status of each worker for participation therein.

3. Congregations of the SELC District shall be urged to become participating employers under the Concordia Retirement Plan, the Concordia Survivor Plan, the Concordia Welfare Plan, and the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers for their eligible employees.

4. Upon the Consummation Date, the assets of the SELC annuity fund shall be assigned, transferred, and delivered to the Missouri Synod. Thereafter, the Missouri Synod shall continue the payment of the annuities commenced prior to such date by the SELC. No person actively employed on the Consummation Date shall have any rights in or to the SELC Annuity Fund.

5. A worker in the SELC District who retires after the Consummation Date shall be entitled only to such benefits under the Concordia Retirement Plan, the Concordia Survivor Plan, the Concordia Welfare Plan, and the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers as shall have actually accrued under said plan with respect to such worker. Consideration may be given by the Missouri Synod to a subsidy, if necessary, in order that the minimum pension receivable by such a retired worker will be not less than the \$100 per month he would have received had he become entitled to benefits under the SELC Annuity Plan.

6. If either the Missouri Synod or the SELC shall elect to withdraw from the Union Agreement, the following provisions shall apply:

a. The amount held in the annuity fund of the SELC District shall be retained by the SELC as a synod.

b. Any payments commenced under the Pension

Plan for Pastors and Teachers, the Concordia Retirement Plan, the Concordia Survivor Plan, or the Concordia Welfare Plan to any worker or the survivors of any worker under any of said plans shall be continued in accordance with the terms of the plan pursuant to which it is being paid.

c. An amount equal to the Individual Account Balance of any worker participating in the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers shall be transferred to the SELC Annuity Fund, and the Pension Plan for Pastors and Teachers and the Missouri Synod shall be released and indemnified from and against any liability with respect to the amount so transferred and from and against any claim to a pension.

d. The rights of any SELC worker participating in the Concordia Retirement Plan shall be determined under the provisions thereof pertaining to a terminated worker, as the same may then be in effect.

LIST OF UNPUBLISHED REPORTS AND OVERTURES

1. Missions

- 1-33U (Same as 1-20)
- 1-34U To Transfer Administration of Deaf Missions to Districts
- 1-35U To Abide by Synodical Decisions and Position re Campus Ministry
- 1-36U To Deplore Closing of Grace Church, St. Louis

2. Theological Matters

- 2-57U Report of Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship
- 2-58U To Reaffirm Scripture as the Word of God
- 2-59U (Same as 2-19)
(Also 2-60U)
- 2-61U To Settle Controversy on Scripture
- 2-62U To Establish Facts on Alleged Unfaithfulness in Doctrine Among Clergy
- 2-63U To Exercise Discipline
- 2-64U To Review ALC Document "Doctrinal Concerns"
- 2-65U To Incorporate Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Liturgical Calendar
- 2-66U To Decline Canonization of Any Person
- 2-67U To Extend Certain Rights to Women
- 2-68U To Require Adherence to Doctrinal Statements
- 2-69U To Reaffirm Position on Scripture as Crucial in Establishing Any Church Fellowship
- 2-70U To Restore Word "True" to Catechism (Lord's Supper)
- 2-71U To Study the Ministry of Women in Church and Society
- 2-72U To Investigate Theological Change Reported by CTM
- 2-73U To Evaluate and Interpret Priorities
- 2-74U To Require Report on Ordination of Teachers
- 2-75U To Disband CTCR
- 2-76U To Remind Editors to Keep Within Certain Scriptural Limits

3. Church Relations

- 3-280U (Same as 3-06)
(Also 3-281U)
- 3-282U To Authorize Referendum on Fellowship
- 3-283U To Subject Fellowship Action to Referendum
- 3-284U To Resolve Fellowship Question in 1971 by Referendum
- 3-285U To Delay Action on Fellowship
- 3-286U To Have Theologians Engage in Further Study Before Declaring Fellowship
- 3-287U To Table Matter of Fellowship
- 3-288U (Same as 3-137)
(Also 3-289U)
- 3-290U (Similar to 3-161)
- 3-291U (Similar to 3-206)
- 3-292U (Similar to 3-230)
- 3-293U To Oppose Fellowship Declaration at This Convention
- 3-294U To Base Fellowship on Agreement in Doctrine and Practice as Outlined in *Brief Statement*
- 3-295U To Put Our Own House in Order Before Embracing Other Lutheran Bodies
- 3-296U To Decline All Resolutions of Fellowship with The ALC
- 3-297U To Decline Fellowship and to Rescind Res. 3-23
- 3-298U To Decline Fellowship Recommendations
- 3-299U (Same as 3-260)
(Also 3-300U)
- 3-301U To Terminate Relations with LCUSA
- 3-302U To Immediately Declare Fellowship
- 3-303U To Finalize Fellowship
- 3-304U To Allow Congregations to Vote on Fellowship
- 3-305U To Postpone Fellowship and Continue Efforts
- 3-306U Not to Enter into Fellowship
- 3-307U Not to Declare Fellowship at Denver
- 3-308U Not to Declare Fellowship
- 3-309U To State Opposition to Fellowship
- 3-310U To State Opposition to Res. 3-23
- 3-311U (Same as 3-99)
- 3-312U (Same as 3-109)

- 3-313U (Same as 3-137)
(Also 3-314U; 3-315U)
- 3-316U To Decline Fellowship with The ALC
- 3-317U To Apply for Membership in the LWF at This Time
- 3-318U To Withdraw from LCUSA
- 3-319U To Establish Fellowship with The ALC
- 3-320U To Declare that Fellowship Does in Fact Exist
- 3-321U To Favor Adoption of Fellowship Recommendation
- 3-322U To Express Assent to Fellowship Recommendation
- 3-323U (See 3-208)
- 3-324U (See 3-282U)
- 3-325U To Let Congregations Decide Fellowship Issue by Referendum
- 3-326U To Defer Fellowship Decision for at Least 2 Years
- 3-327U To Defer Fellowship Until Agreement Is Achieved
- 3-328U To Refrain from Declaring Fellowship
- 3-329U Not to Adopt Any Fellowship Declaration at This Time
- 3-330U To Reject Fellowship at This Time
- 3-331U To Dissent from Fellowship Recommendation
- 3-332U To Acknowledge that Conditions Do Not Permit Fellowship at This Time
- 3-333U To Decline Proposed Fellowship
- 3-334U Not to Establish Fellowship Until All Heterodoxy Is Rejected
- 3-335U To Stand on Exclusive Application of Lutheran Confessions Over Against LWF
- 3-336U Not to Enter into Membership with the LWF
- 3-337U To Take No Action on Canadian Fellowship at This Time
- 3-338U To Deny Request to Declare Fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada
- 3-339U To Decline Request of Lutheran Church—Canada to Declare Fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada
- 3-340U To Oppose Entering Fellowship at This Time
- 3-341U To Cease Attempts for Immediate Declaration of Fellowship in Canada
- 3-342U To Seek Reestablishment of Fraternal Relations with ELS and WELS
- 3-343U Not to Work Together in Sacred Matters with Lutherans Permitting Attacks on Scripture
- 3-344U Not to Work with Reformed Bodies in Sacred Matters
- 3-345U Not to Work with Pope in Sacred Matters
- 3-346U To Support Declaration of Fellowship
- 3-347U To Delay Fellowship for 2 Years
- 3-348U To Refrain from Precipitous Action re Fellowship
- 3-349U Not to Declare Altar and Pulpit Fellowship at This Time
- 3-350U To Decline Fellowship at the Present Time
- 3-351U To Declare that Diversities Do Not Permit Fellowship
- 3-352U To Take Stand on Scripture and Declare Against Fellowship with ALC
- 3-353U To Delay Declaring Fellowship
- 3-354U (Similar to 3-161)
- 3-355U (Similar to 3-209)
- 3-356U To Decline Membership in the LWF
- 3-357U To Decline Overtures to Join LWF
- 3-358U To Oppose Fellowship with The ALC and the ELCC
- 3-359U To Take No Action on Proposed Canadian Fellowship
- 3-360U To Endorse LCUSA Appeal
- 3-361U To Participate in Open-End Appeal
- 3-362U (Same as 3-18)
- 3-363U To Decline Fellowship with The American Lutheran Church
- 3-364U (Same as 3-341U)
- 3-365U (Similar to 3-341U)
- 3-366U (Same as 3-182)
(Also 3-367U to 3-369U)
- 3-370U To Express Dissent from Fellowship Recommendation
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(Also 3-376U to 3-378U)

- 3-379U To Inform the Synod Why Certain District Presidents Could Not Support Fellowship Declaration
- 3-380U Report of SELC-LCMS Merger Committee
- 3-381U (Similar to 3-67)
- 3-382U To Postpone Fellowship with The ALC Until Next Convention
- 3-383U (Same as 3-341U)
- (Also 3-384U)
- 3-385U To Withhold Consent for Declaration of Fellowship in Canada
- 3-386U (Same as 3-137)
- 3-387U (Same as 3-370U)

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- 4-34U (Like 4-16)
- 4-35U To Retain Commission for Services to the Mentally Retarded
- 4-36U Report on Synodical Headquarters
- 4-37U To Retain Separate Commission for Mentally Retarded
- 4-38U Documentation on Proposed Council of Auxiliaries
- 4-39U To Investigate Several Complaints
- 4-40U To Provide for Synodical and District Budget Planning and Coordination
- 4-41U To Set Up \$15 Million Loan Fund for Black Community

5. Constitutional Matters

- 5-53U To Institute Referendum Procedure
- 5-54U To Base Convention Representation on Membership Size
- 5-55U To Stagger Elections of Circuit Counselors
- 5-56U To Endorse Division of Atlantic District
- 5-57U Not to Realign Atlantic District
- 5-58U To Provide Additional District Advisory Delegates
- 5-59U To Approve Division of Atlantic District
- 5-60U To Transfer Christ Congregation, Superior, Wis., to Minnesota North District
- 5-61U To Reaffirm Calling Rights of Congregations
- 5-62U To Receive Pilgrim, Flint, Mich.
- 5-63U To Receive into Membership Christ the King Congregation, Sharonville, Ohio
- 5-64U To Endorse Transfer Request of Holy Cross, Belding, Mich.
- 5-65U To Declare Action of Mission Board in Seconding LCA Member Unconstitutional
- 5-66U To Clarify "Final and Binding" Nature of Board of Appeals Decisions
- 5-67U To Receive King of Kings Congregation, Chesterfield, Mo., into Membership
- 5-68U Report on Principles to Govern Synodical Elections and Appointments
- 5-69U To Consider Granting Franchise to Male Teachers
- 5-70U To Amend Bylaw 2.71 re Membership of Board of Directors
- 5-71U To Require Congregational Ratification of Any Fellowship Action
- 5-72U To Amend Bylaws 1.27 e and 1.63 re Personnel of Convention Committees
- 5-73U To Require Synodical Membership of Every Pastor as Condition of Installation
- 5-74U (Same as 5-58U)
- 5-75U To Receive Good Shepherd Church, Chesterfield Twp., Macomb Co., Mich.

6. Higher Education

- 6-89U To Provide for Annual Seminary Self-Evaluation
- 6-90U To Hire Seminary Instructors from Minority Groups

- 6-91U To Raise Seminary Faculty Salaries
- 6-92U To Permit Students on Seminary Committees
- 6-93U To Develop 4-Year College at Bronxville
- 6-94U To Revise Salary Schedules
- 6-95U To Establish 4-Year Bible and Missionary Training Center
- 6-96U To Authorize Purchase of College near Yucca Valley, Calif.
- 6-97U Report of Study Committee on Lay Higher Education
- 6-98U Report of Committee on Status of Lay Preachers
- 6-99U To Establish Primary Priority for Professional Continuing Education Programs in Extension Centers
- 6-100U (Same as 6-96U)
- 6-101U To Establish Bible and Missionary Training Institute
- 6-102U To Engage Full-Time Recruitment Officer at Each Junior College

7. Parish Education and Service

- 7-11U To Extend Deadline for Confirmation Study
- 7-12U To Endorse 7-04

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- 8-08U To Revise Bylaw 7.71
- 8-09U To Change Name of Youth Ministry

9. Social Action and Welfare

- 9-30U To Respond to World Hunger
- 9-31U To Urge Training in Draft Counseling
- 9-32U To Develop Approved Programs for Conscientious Objectors
- 9-33U To Explore Problems of Farm Workers
- 9-34U To Support Grape Strike and Boycott
- 9-35U To Endorse "Project Equality"

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- 10-24U Report on Radio Stations KFUE, KFUE-FM
- 10-25U (Same as 10-13)
- (Also 10-26U)
- 10-27U To Open West Coast Office of Public Relations
- 10-28U To Establish New Official Doctrinal Journal

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- 11-18U To Make Lodge Policy More Evangelical
- 11-19U To Encourage Congregations to Establish Office of Archivist
- 11-20U To Define More Precisely Approach to Lodge Members
- 11-21U Report of Commission on Architecture

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- 12-35U To Place Pension Funds in Tax-Sheltered Annuity Plans
- 12-36U To Change Pension and Retirement Policy
- 12-37U To Raise Minimum Monthly Pension
- 12-38U To Assign Specific Budget Items to Districts
- 12-39U Supplementary Report of Board of Managers, Concordia Plans
- 12-40U To Amend Concordia Retirement Plan
- 12-41U To Amend Retirement and Pension Plans
- 12-42U (Similar to 12-41U)
- 12-43U To Make Retroactive Cancellation of Reimbursement of Claims Paid to Concordia Welfare Plan

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